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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2014

Christmas Party Guide
Pages 18 & 19

Y FRO GYMRAEG – YN FFW AC YN FFYNNU
A WELCOME FOR EVERYONE IN WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION
SEE OUR 5-PAGE FEATURE STARTING ON PAGE 21

COWBRIDGE CHOIR AT ST LAWRENCE CHURCH
Page 3

Rebels in challenge for charity

THE Cowbridge Rebels cyclists recently completed the Brecon to Cardiff Taff Trail Challenge, successfully raising over £2,700 for the children and families of Ty Hafan.

Team member Bryan Jeffreys reported: "Managing to usurp, adapt and generally ignore the established conventions of a superbly-organised event, the Rebels, riding as a badly oiled machine of 14 riders, set a new and remarkably slow record time.

"This was due primarily to an overly substantial pit-pub stop at Cefn Coed to sample the local brew and enjoy a glorious curry half and half. It was also due to the subsequent and possibly related delay as five riders were mislaid, temporarily, somewhere on the outskirts of Pontypridd!

"Following an emotional reunion and an impressively choreographed 14 abreast 'charge of the heavy brigade' finish, astonished onlookers were advised that the surprisingly impressive team performance could be attributed to a challenging and extensive training regime.

"This has seen dedicated Rebel team members tackle most hills, public houses and chip suppers across the Vale of Glamorgan.

"Rebel team members wish to thank friends and families for their sponsorship.

"They are thrilled to have been able to contribute in a small way to help fund the exceptional and groundbreaking work being undertaken at Ty Hafan, on behalf of those children who most need our support".

For more information on Ty Hafan, go to: www.tyhafan.org.

(SEE TEAM PICTURE ON PAGE 5)

Church helps pupils move on to 'big school'

Photo by MIKE WILCOCK

ABOVE: Year-6 pupils from schools in the Cowbridge area came together for a special leaving service as they came to the end of their stime in primary education.
SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE 5

PRIESTS Q&A IN A PUB!

THE Three Horseshoes pub in Peterston-super-Ely hosts an 'ecumenical Q & A' tonight (Thursday) at 8pm.

The panel comprises Martyn Davies, Rector at Peterston, Tom Pridham minister at Croes-Y-Parc Baptist Chapel, and John Mullins, who is a Deacon at St Francis Roman Catholic Church in Ely.

Rev Davies said: "This is a spin-off from when the three churches combined to stage a Passion Play in the village earlier this year."

He said that the Passion Play had prompted religious debate, and that meeting in a pub was "a good way of reaching out to more people".

Physic garden comes out top of the class!

COWBRIDGE Physic Garden has received the highest possible commendation in the 2014 RHS Britain in Bloom Awards.

The award was handed over to a group of volunteers from the garden at a ceremony in Usk on September 16. The area in which the garden was highly praised was the community participation category reached a Level 5 Award.

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IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.
An email address alone is not sufficient!
We will (*in certain circumstances*)protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'Airport proud of its Nato role'

I WOULD like to thank Fiona Guthrie, whose letter regarding Cardiff Airport during Nato was published in The GEM on September 11. We are very pleased that all the planning ahead of Nato paid off and that disruption to passengers and people in the local community was minimised.

Nato was a hugely exciting project for our team. We are all very pleased that Wales, the cities of Cardiff and Newport, and Cardiff Airport had the opportunity to showcase what we can all do on the world stage.

During Nato week, Cardiff Airport dealt with 17 heads of state/government, 13 foreign ministers, 15 defence ministers, two heads of delegation, lots of military personnel and overseas media, along with the accompanying 800 pieces of baggage (roughly 10 – 12 tonnes).

I couldn't be more proud of the teamwork displayed amongst our own staff and all of the different agencies involved in the operation, which ensured our day-to-day flight programme was unaffected and our customers were able to take their flights as normal.

Debra Barber.
Managing Director,
Cardiff Airport.

Open letter to Vale MP

MY wife has just posted cards and presents to our two grandchildren in Kent. In the absence of a Post Office in Cowbridge, she drove to Bridgend to find that "due to technical circumstances", the Post Office was closed.

She then had no alternative but to drive to Llantwit Major, a round trip of about 18 miles, in order to make sure that the presents for the two kiddiwinks got there on time.

Could you explain the benefits of the privatisation of the Post Office?

Tim Buchalik,
Cowbridge.

'We don't need animal experiments'

I WOULD like to refer Sarah Morris to BAVA *website www.britishantiviv.org/* **after reading her letter in last week's GEM about her refusal to support animal rights groups.**

This organisation is factual and science-based (and not an animal rights group) with information from scientists, ex-vivisectors, doctors, surgeons and people who are also victims affected by the vivisection fraud.

They are campaigning for the immediate abolition of animal experimentation because of the dangerous and fatal consequences results produce.

That's not to mention the unnecessary suffering caused to the laboratory animals – dogs, cats, mice, monkeys and a variety of other species.

It is not a question of importance, but of relevance, as the physiological differences are rather obvious.

Proper sucessful methods of scientific/medical research without using animals or humans as guinea pigs are already in practice.

Look it up. This should be enough to remind anyone that a mouse is not a man (!) unless they need photographs.

Kasey Starr,
Barry.

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What if there are not enough Vale recruits?

'My doubts remain over volunteers to run the libraries'

I WAS interested to see that the letter from Adam Riley in The GEM on September 18 raised the question of whether there would be volunteers to run local libraries on a community basis.

I note that Coun Moore does not have any such doubts; in a printed letter dated August 29, he said: "Some have asked, what would happen if the community library failed. I see no reason why that should be the case as they are very successful in other areas."

So far as I am aware, there is no evidence to support that view and faith alone, unsupported by evidence, is hardly a satisfactory basis for policy making.

A statement about the research the council have carried out to ensure that volunteers are available would reassure us that there will be an adequate service.

My doubts on this point were reinforced recently when a friend said that they had been unable to use the Greenlinks service because of a lack of volunteer drivers.

Incidentally, following my last letter in The GEM, I have been told that the council have made no provision for the running of the library buildings in next year's budget.

This may make residents wonder if the council regard the consultation as mere formality, or that the proposal is, indeed, just a back-door attempt to close the libraries.

I would also point out that although I asked Coun Moore to confirm that the council would take comments received before the formal consultation period into account, or would contact those who had commented and remind them to do so, he has not done so.

A cynic might wonder if this was because the comments he has received are all opposed to the closure policy – but clearly, in the absence of a response from the council, those who oppose this programme must ensure that they take steps to find out when the consultation is to take place and make sure they respond.

The council will then have to have regard to the views of the electorate or, in an extreme case, face the possibility of a judicial review, if the final decision is completely unreasonable.

Gavin Davies,
Penmark.

'Inquiry needed on Welsh NHS'

THE National Health Service in Wales has been the subject of many letters on these pages in recent months and years, but never has it faced a starker warning than that delivered by the British Medical Association just a few days ago.

The organisation that represents 7,000 doctors has called for an independent inquiry into the Welsh Health Service and predicted 'meltdown' if swift action isn't taken.

The BMA joins a senior Labour MP, a patient's watchdog, the college of emergency medicine, and the man who conducted England's recent NHS inquiry, in calling for similar action from the Labour Government in Wales.

Welsh Conservatives agree – but given the Welsh NHS is run by Labour you'd expect that, wouldn't you? The truth is, this is not about political posturing or point scoring.

I have been calling for an NHS inquiry for 18 months and I'm willing to work with the other political parties to deliver it.

Just hours after the BMA's call, an investigation was announced following the death of a woman in an ambulance while it was queuing outside a hospital. My heartfelt thoughts go out to all those affected by that tragedy and I hope answers are quickly forthcoming.

The evidence is stacking up and it's more than clear that there are serious questions to answer over standards of care in the NHS.

An independent all-Wales inquiry would tackle those issues head on and safeguard our Health Service for future generations. Support for that continues to grow rapidly and I urge the Welsh Government to begin implementation.

Andrew RT Davies,
Welsh Conservative Leader.

FoE oppose plans

THE Barry and Vale FoE object to proposed housing on Primrose Hill, Cowbridge; this Green Belt add-on to a town which is already choked with traffic, would be madness, especially as the Vale already has enough housing proposals for seven years.

Many villages in the Vale are now organising against housing developers' grab on green fields. A new town, sustainably planned, is needed in the Vale of Glamorgan.

We hope to represent objectors at the Barry Docks Office Inquiry next week, and would urge others to be there and tell the Inspector what you think of this proposed environmental destruction.

Keith Stockdale,
Barry&Vale FoE Coordinator.

'Use brownfields for housing'

A PLANNING inspector is currently being asked to approve an application which would result in the permanent loss of a large area of agricultural land in a prominent special landscape area at the gateway to Cowbridge.

None of Cowbridge's local representatives has supported this application, which contravenes the Local Development Plan.

I feel that the need for affordable housing could be met by using existing brownfield sites in Cowbridge and the surrounding area.

I hope that anyone else who feels that we should not keep building over the countryside will make known their opposition to this plan.

Anne-Louise Llewellyn-Morgan,
Cowbridge.

'Who sent out glossy leaflets?'

I HAVE received a leaflet,which I understand has gone to many Barry households, about a traveller site at Sully.

I noticed with concern that whoever sent this out did not have the courage, or plain good manners, to identify themselves.

This issue is a very important one and one can have no respect for people too cowardly to put their names to their opinions in a rational debate.

Please may we know who these people are, and who is paying for their glossy leaflets?

Brian Morris,
Barry.

Travellers' site: 'Prove views are taken seriously'

IN the September 18 issue copy of The GEM, Coun Richard Bertin stated that he had been receiving a lot of calls relating to the travellers' site.

Whilst he felt it impossible to respond individually because of the numbers, it was reassuring to learn that he was noting what had been said, which would assist him in future decision-making discussions.

As the subject has generated considerable attention and concern for many, largely because of the perceived lack of transparency within the council, it would be very informative for Coun Bertin to offer a brief outline of the salient points which have been raised.

This would at least reassure residents of the Vale that their views are being taken seriously and do form part of a process which is not decided behind closed doors.

Rob Taylor,
Barry.

LAY OFF THE SEAGULLS!

I AM writing in response to Dianne Hooper's letter about seagulls and what a nuisance they are.

I have a family and put washing out every day; I also feed the gulls, but have never had an issue with them dirtying my washing.

I really don't understand the need to keep moaning about the seagulls as love or hate them they are always going to be part of our world. And why anyone thinks that any form of cruelty to them is acceptable is beyond me.

I have even seen people put spikes on their roof to stop the seagulls landing, which makes me think they need to get a life as the seagulls will outlive us all.

Louisa Williams.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL OCTOBER 2)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
25 Thur	07.51	9.8	20.04	9.9
26 Fri	08.23	9.8	20.35	9.8
27 Sat	08.55	9.7	21.09	9.6
28 Sun	09.29	9.5	21.44	9.4
29 Mon	10.03	9.2	22.18	9.0
30 Tues	10.43	8.8	23.01	8.5
01 Wed	11.32	8.4	23.57	8.2
02 Thur			12.37	8.1

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

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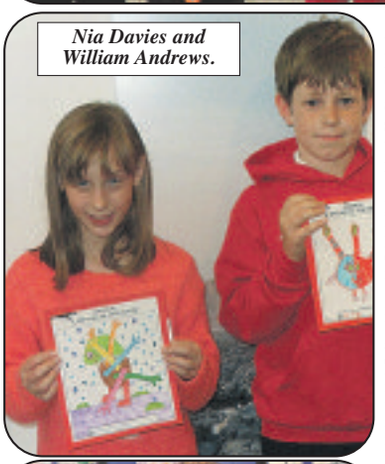
Children pick up prizes after their summer in library

A WINNING LINE-UP!


Nia Davies and William Andrews.

YOUNG readers were congratulated last week at Cowbridge Library after taking part in summer activities, with prizes for five members.

Ceri Vaughan-Jones, a pupil at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, received a prize for successfully completing the summer reading challenge.

The challenge involved reading six books, and then writing a review of each book. Ceri told The GEM that his favourite of the six had been *Northern Lights*, part one of Philip Pullman's 'His Dark Materials' trilogy.

There were also two competitions where children were asked to 'design a monster', and there were four prize-winners in this group.

ABOVE: Ceri Vaughan-Jones.

In the four to seven age group, the winner was Morgan Frederick of Llanfair Primary School, while in second was Jack Phillips, who goes to Croesty Primary in Pencoed.

In the eight to 12 age group, the winner was William Andrews of Y Bont Faen Primary, with Nia Daviers of Llangan Primary in second.

Cowbridge librarian Melanie Weeks with Morgan Frederick (left) and Jack Phillips.

Coffee for Macmillan

TWO local businesses are supporting Macmillan Cancer care by holding a coffee morning tomorrow (September 26).

The Bear Hotel and Oscars restaurant in Cowbridge will both be welcoming coffee-lovers from 10am.

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New Zealand uncovered *at Cowbridge U3A*!

ON September 10 we had a talk from Viv Head who leads an interesting life in that he spends six months of summer living with his partner Betty in Cardiff and six months with her in Christchurch, South Island New Zealand.

With a population of five million – four million in North Island and one million in South, it is certainly the place for an outdoor life – especially for the 50 million sheep!

Viv regaled us with stories of whale watching, dolphins and bunjy jumping not to mention the trips in their camper van around the Southern Alps. There are only three roads crossing the Alps east to west and one railway line with one service a day.

The most dramatic part, however, was the story of the four earthquakes and many tremors since 2011, leaving 185 dead, 10,000 houses demolished and the cathedral destroyed. Liquefaction seeped from underground, sewage collapsed, as did water and power.

Many parts of Christchurch have been declared unstable and the population relocated, including Viv. Understandably, some people have left the area, while others soldier on buying their goods downtown out of converted ship containers turned into shops but life goes on.

Next meeting, Town Hall October 8 at 2pm, when Ken and Coralie Payne will talk about Mercy Ships.

TB

In fine voice for a church appeal concert...

CHORISTERS BASK IN THE 'AFTERGLOW' OF SUCCESS!

ON September 20 Cowbridge Male Voice Choir travelled to Lechlade for its third concert there, the last having been some years previously.

The concert was in aid of the St Lawrence Church restoration appeal and the choir was in fine voice singing to a capacity audience in this fine old church, which dates in its present form from 1476.

The programme was largely the same as our annual concert and included an eclectic mix of traditional Welsh hymns, arrangements of modern pieces, and a medley from the musical *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Following the concert, the choir and a section of the audience repaired to the pub next door to 'rehydrate'. As is our custom, the singing continued, but in a slightly less structured way. Highlights included a solo from Trevor Morgan, who sang his party piece *My Grandfather's Clock* and Dave Rees' rich bass rendition of *Summer Time*.

Our stage manager, Robin Hughes, was on top form and kept the 'afterglow' going until we reluctantly had to leave for the coach home.

Any men who might be interested in joining the choir should come along to one of our Wednesday practices, held between 7.30pm and 9.30pm in Holy Cross Church Cowbridge. For more information on the choir and to book us see the web site at http://www.cmvc.org.uk.

TC

Why not a Post Office – *on wheels?*

I ECHO the many concerns over the lack of a Post Office in Cowbridge. Recently, I went on a trip to Tintern and there on the field was a large mobile Post Office van.

It was so well equipped that I even managed to get some money out.

This van travels to three villages. Why cannot Cowbridge have that service until we have a permanent post office?

It could probably be situated on one of the fields in the area.

D Store, Cowbridge.

Schoolgirl harpists join prestigious orchestra

TWO 14-year-old local harpists, Nia Paddison Rees (pictured) and Anwen Fardy, have both gained a place in the prestigious National Youth Harp Orchestra of Great Britain, NYHO.

Both girls started to learn the harp at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, which has a reputation for nurturing young musicians. The girls have been members of the Boverton-based Harmonious Harp ensemble for five years and have a good deal of experience in playing in an orchestra of harps.

The NYHO has concerts planned next year at the Yehudi Menhuin Concert Hall, the Festival Hall, Market Drayton with singer Faryl Smith (Ppatinum classical award winner), the Cadogan Concert Hall and a European tour in August 2015.

Nia says that she's "really excited" at the prospect of working with harpists from all over Britain and forming new musical connections, and is "thrilled to have this opportunity".

Readers' Letters

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Music Festival 'very professional'

THE Mayor gave a most eloquently comprehensive vote of thanks to all the organisers and performers of the fifth Cowbridge Music Festival, at the end of the final concert in Holy Cross Church on Saturday evening.

However, on behalf of all those who were not present, but have enjoyed the previous concerts this year, we would like to thank and congratulate Mary Elliott Rose and her team for yet again giving us such wide ranging and high quality concerts over the past 10 days.

The programme was better than ever and the whole organisation was most professional. We are so fortunate to have all this brought to our doorstep.

The festival is going from strength-to-strength but nothing 'on this scale' can take place without a vast amount of planning and hard work behind the scenes.

Everything went so smoothly and our enjoyment was evidently shared by the enthusiastic and energetic young musicians.

Local schools have benefited, too, through the outreach programme and we look forward to the festival's continued success with the patronage of Nicola Benedetti.

Colwyn Treharne Jones, Pamela L Jones, CT and PW Jones, Cowbridge.

Pianist home to a rapturous ovation

THE GEM's report on the Cowbridge Music Festival was timely, as its fifth birthday was special: celebrated violinist Nicola Benedetti has agreed to be patron, and to come and play for us when her busy schedule permits.

The festival's founder, Mary Elliott Rose, pulled off another coup in bringing the internationally-renowned pianist Llyr Williams to Cowbridge for two nights.

He gave a masterclass, the first in his native Wales, his last was in Chicago.

Four talented students from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Sioned Evans, Jack Bird, George Fradley and Immanuel Voigt, played Beethoven and Mozart sonatas, and received encouragement and advice.

Some of this was graphic: "*Don't be too polite when playing Beethoven (the composer was a pretty gruff man), and remember that in every piece there is a bit where you have to break the piano*."

Emphasis was on playing exactly what was written on the score, and ensuring that the person at the back of the hall could hear every single note.

In a packed Holy Cross Church the following evening, Llyr Williams demonstrated just such precision and incredible power in a recital of works by Haydn, Schubert, Liszt and Schumann.

It was a performance of dazzling virtuosity greeted by rapturous applause.

K G Jones, Llanblethian.

Sad loss to town

WE are saddened to hear of another local business closing at the end of this month – Cafe Nia is, or was, a well-established coffee shop which thrived in Cowbridge until recently.

The big chains have 'muscled' their way into a local market town and it is a shame to see the independent shops disappear.

We wish Nia and staff all the best in the future.

Adele and Tony Baker, Llangan.

'Great to shop at Farmers' Market!'

"IT was great to visit and shop at the Cowbridge Farmers' Market this weekend, with the Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge – Coun Peter Knapp and Joan Knapp. There was such a variety of stalls and fresh local produce – I support the Farmers' Market and encourage everyone to visit," said Vale AM Jane Hutt.

She is pictured (above) with the Mayor and Mayoress.

Chatterbook children keep diary for future reference..!

THE Chatterbook group at Cowbridge library consists of children who are avid readers, who like a challenge and enjoy sharing their reading experiences. They take part in sessions that are book-related, produce a craft and discuss a range of subjects.

The group is currently run by Tracey Ketley, senior library assistant at Cowbridge Library.

They have an opportunity, during the sessions, to express their views and ideas and make comments about books they have enjoyed.

The children keep a diary of what they have been reading, what they would recommend to others within the group, also recording their favourite author, character and book title.

On July 16 a group of children buried a time capsule outside Cowbridge Children's Library.

The contents of the capsule reflect the topics that have been covered from January to July 2014.

Linda Nottage attended the session and gave a discussion relating to bio-diversity and also contained in the capsule are measurements of the trees that surround the library within the gardens.

The aim is to dig up the capsule in 25 years' time.

MW

The photograph by John O'Beirne shows the Chatterbooks Group burying the capsule!

The true story of the King of Siam

AT the meeting of Cowbridge Senior Citizens on September 18 at the Town Hall, the speaker was David Alexander.

He gave a most interesting account of the real story of Anna and the King of Siam, accompanied by pictures of King Mongkut (played by Yul Brynner in the film), and Anna Leonowens (played by Deborah Kerr).

He also revealed that the real king's character was that of a bully who did not honour his agreements, was hypocritical about slavery, and who was ignorant about world affairs.

He insisted that his subjects bowed to him on all fours. He did, however, agree that Anna should teach his wives and children.

The film and musical presentations of the story gave an acceptable version but not a strictly accurate one.

The next meeting will be held on October 16 when the speaker will be Dean Powell, the editor for many years of the Pontypridd Observer series of newspapers.

His topic will be Dr Price, who performed the first cremation.

All are welcome – not only senior citizens – to what should be a very interesting and informative presentation.

Mavis Ashford, chairman, Cowbridge Senior Citizens.

CHURCHES COME TOGETHER TO HELP PUPILS ON THEIR WAY TO 'BIG SCHOOL'

Pictures by
MIKE WILCOCK

LEAVING the security of primary school and heading off to 'big school' can make pupils a little nervous so, during the summer break, Churches Together in Cowbridge invited the year-6 leavers to a service at the United Free Church.

Pupils from all the primary school 'cluster' that feed into Cowbridge Comprehensive were invited, and the service was conducted by Rev Heather Weddell.

She told The GEM: "The pupils each received a helpful booklet, entitled *It's Your Move*, and these were presented to them by the deputy mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun David Morris."

Barry man is jailed for 'brandishing knife in street'

by
AJ SICLUNA

A FORKLIFT truck driver who twice wielded knives in public, has been jailed for a total of 15 months at Cardiff Crown Court.

When police first spotted 33-year-old Ashley Miller with a weapon, he told the officers: "You have known me for years, you know I'd never use it. It was stupid."

Miller, of Holton Road, Barry, admitted possessing a bladed article. He was also in breach of suspended sentences for offences of affray, possessing a bladed item, driving with excess alcohol and driving while disqualified.

Prosecutor Nicholas Gareth Jones said that on July 18, police saw Miller brandishing a carving knife in Lower Guthrie Street, Barry, towards a group of men 40 yards away in a garden.

As the police approached, he tried to hide the weapon.

The court heard that he had convictions for 88 offences going back to 1997, including assault, causing grievous bodily harm, robbery and using threatening words and behaviour.

In the affray incident, said Mr Jones, Miller and friends were drunk. There was a fight and he was seen to have a knife, but he was also attacked himself in the incident.

Kevin Seal, representing him, said: "He is the first to realise that he has behaved foolishly. He has had, and continues to have, problems in his life. He also has a number of responsibilities."

Judge Richard Twomlow said: "The introduction of a knife into a situation is a serious matter. You were brandishing a knife on a public street at a time when you were in breach of two suspended sentences. That incident could have escalated.:

He was ordered to pay £100 victim surcharge.

The Rebels' charity challenge!

ABOVE:
The Cowbridge Rebels who made the ride were: Andrew Hopkins, Bryan Jeffreys, Colin Nunn, Duncan Addison, Hugh Exley, Huw Llewellyn, Jon James, Matthew Anderson, Mike Carney, Mike Proctor, Nick Exley, Phil Llewellyn, Ron Jones and Tom Anderson.

PLANTING 'GREEN' SEEDS IN NURSERY!

YSGOL Iolo Morganwg would like to say a big thank you to Ross Chamberlain of Blueprint Construction, who offered to help the school develop the area behind the nursery classroom.

They not only provided the materials needed to create raised beds, but gave up their time and expertise over a weekend during the August holidays to develop it!

They created steps for the children to reach the beds easily and provided stone to decorate the areas surrounding them.

The area will help the children learn further about planting, growing and harvesting crops. It is not just an area to be used by the nursery class, the whole school will benefit from such a purpose-built planting space.

Diolch yn fawr!

SARAH TUDOR

The smallest birds had the loudest voices!

FOLLOWING the summer break, Bont Faen WI members were excited to be starting the autumn season of meetings, with new ladies warmly welcomed.

Speaker Judy Taylor came to tell us of her life in the Wrens.

In her introduction, she told us that they were known as the smallest birds in the garden – with the loudest voices!

Judy left Aberdare at the age of 17 in the 1960s when the cold war was very much part of the decade and, after tough training, chose to work in communications based at Whitehall; and enjoyed serving in Malta and Singapore until her return to Whitehall.

Her stories were packed with detail and kept our full attention. Judy's 12 years of service saw sadness and fun and she informed us that equality saw the end of the female sectors of the armed forces. She regularly meets with retired colleagues in Cardiff.

Julie Harris, Jane Crow and Pam Harrison had a very enjoyable weekend recently with the Glamorgan Federation at Denman College, choosing the walking and cookery courses.

The group Denman bursary will be drawn in October.

Members look forward to visiting the Glyndwr Vineyard on October 2 for a tour, tasting and light refreshments.

At the meeting on October 16, there will be a talk on the Life of African mothers.

Members are invited to bring along baby clothes as a donation.

JH

Waiting on Auntie Beeb!

THE monthly meeting of St Hilary WI on September 9 in the village hall, was opened by president Betty Thomas.

A group of members went on an impressive visit to Ewenny Priory Church where Dr and Mrs Evans made all welcome with refreshments, as well as a tour and talk .

The prospect of a tour of the BBC studios in Cardiff will have to be put on hold for the time being as the BBC is in the process of moving from its present premises.

This year's Christmas dinner has been arranged for December 16 as the caterers have already been booked for the usual meeting date of the 9th. Secretary Sheila Davies read a report on the NFWI annual meeting in Leeds on June 7, from the Link delegate Mrs Marjorie Hoole of St Fagans WI.

This month's speaker, Mrs Hilary Carney, gave a graphic description of her visit to the Philippines for her son's wedding in December last year in the aftermath of the earthquake in October and Typhoon Haiyan in November.

Hilary and her family spent a lot of their time buying items of local crafts to sell back in UK to raise money to help those affected by the two dreadful disasters.

In one area, 95 per cent of housing was damaged and 80 per cent of the fishing boats were destroyed. The project 'Back to Sea' is raising money to get the fishermen back on their feet by repairing old boats or building new ones.

She also showed many photos of the damage caused, the rebuilding efforts and the unfailing optimism and friendliness of the local people.

Next month's meeting will be held on October 14 at 7pm in St Hilary Village Hall.

SWEDISH CHOIR'S VISIT CEMENTS TIES WITH THE LLANTWIT MAJOR BENEFICE

EARLIER this year, the links between the Diocese of Uppsala (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sweden) and the Diocese of Llandaff (Anglican Church in Wales), first established in 2007, were further strengthened with a joint three-day conference, led by Archbishop Barry and Bishop Ragnar, which saw the renewal of the Diocesan link agreement.

The subsequent visit by Motettkören, the choir of Sigtuna Parish, from September 4-7, to the Benefice of Llantwit Major, continued to strengthen the ties. It was good to welcome Ingrid Norén-Nilsson back to the Benefice.

Ingrid was licenced as Assistant Curate to Llantwit Major for two months during 2012. On returning to Sweden, she was appointed vicar in the parish of Sigtuna (the oldest town in Sweden) and, together with the clergy team, visited Llantwit Major last November, when the two parishes entered a Link Parish Agreement.

From start to finish, the choir visit proved to be an amazing celebration together with a wonderful spirit of Christian fellowship, enhanced by the uplifting music.

On the Friday morning, the choir marvelled at the enthusiasm and commitment of the youngsters at Wick and Marcross Church in Wales School as they sang to them; then the choir reciprocated and taught the children a Swedish folk song.

A visit to St James's, Wick, with a talk from Team Vicar Anthony followed. At the subsequent evening concert at St Illtud's, the choir performed an hour of delightful music, including a favourite the 'Irish Blessing' by Bob Chilcott.

Following the concert, there was the opportunity to talk together with a cheese and wine buffet.

All our churches joined in the Sunday Eucharist at St Illtud's which was a 'trilingual' concelebration. The St Illtud's choir invited Motettkören to take their place in the choir stalls. With their choir robed, they processed from the Galilee singing 'Alta trinita beata' which was very moving.

Sections of the liturgy were sung in Swedish by Ingrid and the choir, with Rector Huw including some Welsh and a hearty rendering of Calon Lân sung by all!

It was the most beautiful and inspiring act of praise and worship and a wonderful sign of fellowship, uniting friends from across the seas and across Christian traditions.

There were tears at the farewells as our Swedish friends departed for Gatwick and home.

Plans have now begun to arrange a reciprocal visit to Sigtuna in May 2016.

KEITH BROWN

COMMUNITY NEWS

Your local correspondent is
NANCY DAVIDGE
"Tynewydd", Llangan.
(01656) 860303
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Harvest festival

ST CANNA'S Church, Llangan's harvest festival service will take place on Sunday, September 28 at 11.15am.

A request is being made for donations of tinned or wrapped food which can be distributed to the local foodbank.

Fresh products such as fruit and veg will be auctioned in St Canna's following the service and the cash raised will benefit needy people in the Bridgend area.

On Saturday, October 4, St Canna's will become a hive of activity from 10.30am, when the autumn fayre welcomes visitors from Llangan and further afield.

There will be a variety of stalls, with all sorts of things to buy and there is also the promise of homemade cake and preserves, superb raffle prizes and a welcome cuppa to enjoy with a bacon roll.

Kids are being catered for with a children's corner. All this for just £1 for adults, children admitted free!

Commemorative plaque

A FEW days ago, I made my way to the area where the St Mary Hill commemorative plaque is situated.

I became concerned, as there is a very deep trench in close proximity to the plaque, which depicts the history of the St Mary Hill horse fair that originated in the 15th century and became the principal horse fair in Wales until the mid-1950s.

There are many people still in the area who enjoyed the fun, including myself.

Alas, those days are gone forever. The plaque was financed by the late Mr Bernard Battrick.

Shadows session

OCTOBER 14, Penarth Conservative Club, Stanwell Road (029 2030 9979); South Wales Shadows Club's meeting, 8pm. All welcome.

New group

ON Tuesday, September 30 Alzheimer's Society are starting a 'Singing for the Brain' group in St Mary's Church, 157-163 Holton Road, Barry.

The group will meet every Tuesday afternoon at 2pm for a fun, informal singing sessions.

Call Karen Collins on 029 20434965.

GRAPE STORAGE JAR BAFFLED THE WI!

THIS month Llanblethian WI welcomed back an old friend as our speaker – the well-known gardener and raconteur Kevin Thomas, who works for Cardiff Council at Bute Park.

His topic this time was bulbs and tubers – it is that time in the gardening calendar! He started his talk with a mystery object. I'm afraid nobody guessed what it was used for. It was, in fact, a grape storage jar, much prized in years gone by to ripen grapes for Christmas. No good gardener, or stately home, should be without one!

He showed us many beautiful slides that he has taken at various shows; if he wasn't a gardener he would have made a great photographer.

There are over 150 varieties of daffodil to choose from, all to be planted in the autumn, but Kevin showed us a photograph of daffs he planted on Christmas Eve and they were magnificent.

A little secret would be after deadheading, leave to die back, but feed the bulbs to build them up for the following year.

Lincolnshire is the largest area now for growing daffs; it is now known as the New Holland. There were many other slides of tulips, fuchsia, begonias, all very beautiful with many tips on how to get the most out of your garden. Kevin is very knowledgeable, very vocal and full of fun. This was a good evening.

If you would like to join us at any time, we meet on the second Thursday of every month at Llanblethian church hall.

VG

Young Brendan's ceramic castle proves a winner

BRENDAN LAWRENCE, a year-9 pupil at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School won the St Donat's 'Myths and Legends' competition with a ceramic castle. He is pictured here with Mr Simon Thomas and Mrs Melissa Allen-Bevan of the art department.

Scout jumble sale huge success

THE Cowbridge Scout Group would like – yet again – to thank everyone who supported the Scouts' annual jumble sale.

The local community were very generous and the Cubs and Scouts enjoyed touring the town picking up everyone's donations early last week. Then on Friday a veritable army of parent helpers and other kind souls sorted everything ready for the sale.

The usual fears that no one would turn up were soon allayed when the first eager bargain hunters arrived outside the hall an hour and half early, to ensure they got first pick of the bargains.

Within seconds of the doors opening, the hall was packed and the fun commenced. There was something for everyone and nobody went home disappointed; apart perhaps from the parents who had cleared out toy cupboards only to see them filled with new purchases!

Everyone was kept amused during the morning by one of the Scout Troop, whose vocal selling skills would have had Alan Sugar signing him up on the spot. We look forward to a large donation when he makes his first million.

Last year, we were astounded to take £1,300 and felt this figure would never be topped. Therefore, when all the money this year was totted up, we were astonished and not a little pleased to discover we made nearly £1,500.

All this will be used to improve the facilities and equipment that we need to support the varied activities we organise across the Cowbridge Scout Group.

Once again, to everyone who donated jumble, helped set up and run the event, or turned up on the day to buy, our sincere thanks. *Diolch!*

Eluned Moran,
Beaver Section Leader.

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or 01446 713110
www.cowbridgeaos.org.co.uk

CAOS celebrates 45th birthday

ONE year on from a meeting of a small common interest group based in Cowbridge, CAOS (Cowbridge Operatic Society) took to the stage in the Town Hall in 1969 with *The Pirates of Penzance* by Gilbert and Sullivan.

Now, 45 years later, they are still performing. In the intervening years, they have performed a variety of productions, from light opera to modern musical theatre classics and even one pantomime.

They have also performed a series of concerts throughout the Vale and beyond, teaming up with male voice choirs and RAF St Athan Voluntary Band.

In 2010, the junior section, Total CAOS, was formed and members took part in the production of *Annie* that year. Since then, they have produced their own show (*Dazzle*), given concerts and assisted in the senior production.

To celebrate its 45th anniversary, CAOS is presenting a special concert charting the history of the group at Cowbridge Town Hall on October 10 and Llantonian Hall, Llantwit Major on October 11 at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available on 01446 713110, at Davies Newsagents in Cowbridge and Chris Williams, Optometrist, Llantwit Major.

The CAOS concert group is available to sing at weddings, parties and any other function and is also looking for new members. Please contact Jenny Hughes on 01446 713110 for details, or visit the website at www.Cowbridgeaos.org.uk.

Vale People First group wins praise for making a difference

ABOVE:
Jane Hutt AM with Vale People First and the Real Lives teams at Salem Church.

VALE People First supports the 'Real Lives' project which gives new opportunities to people with learning disabilities and involves carers and volunteers who organised a successful coffee morning at Salem Church on September 13.

They were warmly praised by Jane Hutt AM, who said: "Vale People First and their Real Lives project are making a huge difference to people's lives and opportunities.

"This was a great event, which raised valuable funds and was enjoyed by all."

Flag an iconic reminder...

IN this centenary year, the First World War Mercantile Marine is important and remembering members of the then Maritime Service from the Vale is essential.

All those local seamen who served in the Mercantile Marine in 1914-1918 were remembered at a service at the Glamorgan Merchant Navy Monument, in Barry prior to the Merchant Navy Association (Wales) Barry branch annual seafarers' service at the Memorial Hall, Barry on Saturday, September 20.

Together with veteran and serving members of the local Merchant Navy, relatives and friends, the seafarers' service was attended by representatives of the Vale Council and town mayors, councillors and officials and combined forces groups and other organisations.

Local men of the Merchant Navy and fishing fleets from all conflicts, for whom there is no grave but the sea, were further remembered.

Earlier this month and last week, the Vale flew the Red Ensign of the British Merchant Navy both for an MN week which included Merchant Navy Day (September 3) and annual remembrance/tribute. The iconic MN flag was also flown locally for the World War One centenary and Lights Out services last month. The Red Duster is now also flown at the Tower Hill Memorial, London every day.

The Tower Hill, London memorial for World War One was unveiled in 1928 to mark the service and sacrifice of the Merchant Marine in World War One.

In 1928, King George V created the title 'Master of the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets' and appointed the then Prince of Wales to that office. This is how the title 'Merchant Navy' came into being.

Though many are recorded on monuments without rank/position etc, we remember all of our own and many others.

JT Greenway

Tom jogs our GEM readers' memories!

ABOVE: Remember Knap pool?

BARRY historian Tom Clemett has returned to Victoria Park with another collection of historic photographs and reminders of Barry.

For over six years Tom has regularly staged exhibitions in Victoria Park, and other venues around the town.

This time, he has over 200 photographs on show. Tom describes the exhibition as "a montage of photographs of Barry Island, Barry Dock, and the recently in-the-news Cold Knap".

The exhibition runs until Sunday, October 26. There is no admission charge.

Opening times are 10am to 4pm daily seven days a week (closed for lunch at 1pm to 2pm at the weekends).

Where there's a will there's peace of mind

ALTHOUGH it sounds a morbid subject, it turned out to be a fun night at the Vale NFU Ladies when Phillip Davies entertained the club by delving into stories of the rich and famous – or sometimes not so rich but famous.

Famous or not, Phillip stressed that everyone should have a will. It saves your family a lot of money and heartache, and as the stories were told you are never too young, too smart, or too powerful to have a will.

A vote of thanks was given by Ray Evans. The next meeting is on October 21 at 7.30pm; new members welcome. ***JS***

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'We're helping to Keep Wales Tidy!'

Vale Council cabinet members and staff litter picking in Holton Road, Barry.

LAST week, the Vale Council cabinet joined thousands of volunteers across Wales to celebrate 'Tidy Wales Week', which encourages people to show how much they care for their local area by helping to remove the blight of litter and fly tipping. Cabinet member for the environment and visible services, Coun Rob Curtis, said: "The Vale of Glamorgan is a beautiful part of Wales but, unfortunately, we still have people who are determined to leave it in a mess.

"Tidy Wales Week is a reminder that we can all do our bit to make a positive change. We all live busy lives, but most of us could spare a couple of hours of our time to make our communities cleaner and tidier."

Plaid Cymru force debate on future of Vale libraries

PLAID CYMRU councillors have forced a debate on the future of Vale libraries at next week's full Vale Council meeting.

Coun Ian Johnson, who is the Plaid Cymru councillor for Barry town centre, which includes Barry library, said he was concerned that cuts to opening hours and creating volunteer library services would undermine the future of libraries in the Vale.

Members of the public who are concerned about the future of the library service can watch the debate live at the Civic Offices in Barry at 6pm next Monday, (September 29).

Coun Johnson went on: "The Vale of Glamorgan library service is a very successful part of the council, with more visits, more books taken out and higher satisfaction ratings than the Welsh average.

"I am, therefore, very concerned by the proposals to slash the number of hours at the county's major libraries, including a 22 per cent cut at Barry Library.

"This will make it impossible for anybody to use the library if they cannot get to the town centre in the middle of the day, including those who work outside Barry or college students who are on their courses.

"Five libraries, including Dinas Powys and Rhoose, will be run by volunteers if these plans are implemented.

"A recent scrutiny committee meeting told councillors that around 50 volunteers will be required per volunteer library, but no plans are yet in place if this number of volunteers can be found."

"Many people feel misled by a Vale Council consultation that asked for volunteers to help the library service last year.

"Those people thought that they were being asked to assist in making a better service, not replace full time and trained library staff.

"Plaid Cymru does not support these changes, because we think they will lead to a worse than expected service and are unsustainable in the long run."

LOOKING FORWARD TO MORE POWERS *(and responsibilities)* FOR WALES

WITH the First Minister, Carwyn Jones, in his call for a UK wide Constitutional Convention made two years ago, debates and discussions about constitutional matters are clearly, and rightly, being aired and considered widely.

His statement after the results of the Scottish Referendum on Friday morning, provided him with the opportunity to restate his position.

He highlighted the importance of establishing ... "a relationship of mutual respect between the four legislatures and governments that make up the governance of the UK.

It is time to recognise that devolution is an established part of our constitution and needs to be guaranteed, as Gordon Brown said."

Attention has been drawn to the Wales Bill proceeding through Westminster which will bring important new fiscal powers and responsibilities to Wales.

It is hoped that this will receive Royal Assent before the end of the year. The Bill sets out new fiscal powers, including powers to borrow for capital investment.

We have been preparing for this ever since the Holtham Commission report in 2009 followed by the cross party Silk Commission which led to the Wales Bill.

These are 'powers for a purpose' to bring new opportunities for Wales to boost our economy and support the housing sector. In July, the First Minister announced that we would bring forward a legislative programme for tax devolution including specific bills for replacement of stamp duty land tax and landfill taxes – to be introduced after the next Assembly elections.

However, the First Minister also announced that in the short-term we would introduce legislation to establish the administrative arrangements to handle these new tax responsibilities in Wales.

As Minister for Finance and Government Business, I am taking this forward with the publication of a White Paper this week on proposals for the collection and management of devolved taxes in Wales.

I hope that this will stimulate discussion, debate and a healthy response to the Consultation which will follow my announcements this week.

This will be the first Welsh tax legislation in modern times and is both historic and significant for Wales.

These new taxes will be grounded in tax principles which I have already published, with the support and guidance of a Tax Advisory Group that includes tax experts, business representatives, social partners, local government and the third sector.

I have stated that: They will be fair to businesses and individuals who pay them and they will be simple, with clear rules that seek to minimise compliance and administration costs and they will support growth and jobs providing stability and certainty for taxpayers.

So I will be actively encouraging people and organisations to offer their views and help us shape the regime for future Welsh taxes.

We are moving ahead with devolution in Wales, to provide us with new tools and levers to boost our economy and taking responsibility for important taxes which will be switched off in 2018 in Westminster.

We will be responsible for managing these taxes, which will be reformed to meet Welsh needs and priorities, and give us the income to enable us to borrow to boost our infrastructure in Wales.

I hope we can stimulate debate and discussion to follow the example set by the Scottish Referendum campaign, which had such an impact on the people of Scotland.

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by **Jane Hutt AM** *(Minister for Finance)*

IN BRIEF

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor will be hosting a charity coffee morning in aid of Arthritis Research UK on Thursday, October 16 from 10.30am – 12 noon in the Civic Office. All are welcome.

Pop quiz for fun

A LONG-RUNNING pop quiz, which began in 1986 is held each Tuesday in the Park Hotel, Barry at 8.30pm and has built up a strong following.

Organiser Brian Enos is proud of this record, and explains that the quiz is a team game based on teams identifying tracks (usually 10 to a round), by artiste and title.

There are no prizes for the winners, as it's all about taking part. Entry is free.

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Intrepid WRAFs celebrate 75th anniversary with novel charity relay!

WRAFS on tour is a group of around 600 former WRAFs and currently serving female personnel who are completing a UK wide charity relay – walking, cycling, running or using any other mode of transport.

One lady is even planning to walk over the Severn Bridge on crutches in a bid to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support and RAFA (Royal Air Force Association).

A spokeswoman at MoD St Athan explained: "They hope this will really capture the imagination and support of as many people as possible. The idea was first suggested around a year ago and now women of all ages (including several ladies over 70) are taking part, some on horseback!

"This is an important year, in terms of anniversaries, for women in the Royal Air Force – it will be 75 years since WAAF was formed; 65 years since the name changed to WRAF and 20 years since the 'W' officially disappeared under the complete merge with the RAF.

"It is also 100 years since the start of World War One; an important anniversary for all members of the armed forces. The ladies are hoping to finish the relay at the National Arboretum where they will lay a floral tribute," she concluded.

The ladies will be setting off from MoD St Athan at 10am on Thursday, October 2. If you would like to join them for coffee and give them a St Athan send off, contact the MCO at MoD St Athan, Mrs Jane Bissett on 07736 340024.

Ramblers pay tribute to Zulu the donkey...

ELEVEN Penarth and District Ramblers, including leader Geraint, gathered at St John's well in the 12th century village of Newton to follow an ancient inland route connecting three fresh water wells – the other two, Ffynnon Fawr and Ffynnon Dewi, being situated in the nearby Saxon settlement of Nottage.

Tramping quiet lanes, fields and tracks to reach the statuesque and mysterious Sker House and joining the Wales Coast Path, they paused for lunch in warm autumnal sunshine in part of Rest Bay before continuing across Lock's Common to reach Porthcawl.

Making their way along the seafront before scoffing refreshing cool ices at Coney Beach, a short trek across Sandy and Trecco Bays brought them back to their start.

Eleven walkers including organiser and leader William set out to enjoy a two-day walking adventure from Porlock in the Exmoor National Park, beginning with a trip to Dunkery Beacon, the highest point on Exmoor. Special thanks go to Josie for baking two delicious cakes that provided a boost to the group's energy levels.

Making their way to Horner and then Webber's Post before climbing steadily through gorse and over moorland to reach the cairn on Dunkery Hill, the rewards were wonderful views which stretched before them during their lunch break.

Then a pause on their journey at the isolated Stoke Pero church to learn an interesting fact that during renovations a donkey named Zulu earned his own notoriety by hauling heavy timber on a cart up from Porlock twice a day.

Tramping up and downhill – they went through pretty woodland at the Doverhay Plantation and arrived back in Porlock.

Setting out eagerly from Porlock on day two towards the delightful Bossington Beach and joining part of the long distance south west coastal path to Hurlstone Point, a climb led up to the old coastguard shelter, where eyes strained through the mist directly across the Bristol Channel towards the Glamorgan coastline, in order to pick out landmarks on home soil at Nash and Aberthaw.

Following a challenging climb to Selworthy Beacon and lunch in warm sunshine while watching a peregrine falcon hunting along the cliffs, they journeyed on to North Hill and through woodland and ancient tracks to reach the picturesque National Trust thatched cottage village of Selworthy for afternoon tea at Periwinkle Cottage.

Strolling on to the old stone river bridge at the village of Allerford, then on past farms to West Lynch Woods and the old mill, homemade chutneys and jams were quickly snapped up! Their return was via Bossington and across the marshes.

On September 27, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 9-mile hard walk in the Abercarn area; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

On September 28, meet at 9am at Cogan for an 11-mile strenuous walk up the big four, Fan y Big, Cribyn, Pen y Fan and Corn Du; contact Robin on 029 2051 4051.

To follow the group, please log on to www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com

Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Joy Strangward

FORGOTTEN CASTLE

RHOOSE and District History Society is holding its monthly meeting on Friday, September 26 at 7.30pm in the lesser hall of Rhoose Community Hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose, when Brian Davies is speaking on 'Cardiff's Forgotten Castle'. Tickets on door £1; children 50p.

'Dyffryn Daff' goes on sale

DYFFRYN GARDENS is celebrating the release of the Dyffryn Daffodil which has won international status as a new breed of Daffodil.

Cory Cup winner of Falmouth, Ron Scamp, has developed the daffodil Narcissus Dyffryn over the last few years and launched it at the RHS Cardiff show on April 11. It has won international recognition as a new species.

The daffodil will be available exclusively through Ron Scamp and Dyffryn Gardens.

"We are known for our unique and exotic plant collections that have come from all over the globe. It's great to have our own daffodil that is specific to us that we can share with the public. We hope that the bulbs sell so that we can see the local area adorned with its own flower next spring," said Alex Luker, head gardener at Dyffryn Gardens.

The daffodil bulbs are available from 10am – 5pm from the gift shop at Dyffryn Gardens at £4 each or three for £10.

The gardens are open seven days a week from 10am until 6pm until the end of September.

MACMILLAN COFFEE TASTER

TOMORROW (September 26) Macmillan Cancer Support Ambassador David Emanuel is hosting Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning at Gileston Manor, Gileston, CF62 4HX.

David told The GEM: "It is going to be a really big bash! We're holding it in the gardens and are looking forward to meeting everyone. I'm even hoping it may become an annual event."

Explore the gardens, have coffee and cake in picturesque surroundings, and win prizes in the raffle and tombola, while raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Gates open at 10am. Admission at gate is £5; car parking available.

£25 GEM FACEBOOK PRIZE

Our GEM Facebook winner for September 18, 2014 is:

SAM LANGFORD MCCULLOCH

who correctly answered last week's question in The GEM.

Our lucky winning reader, chosen at random wins a £25 prize voucher to spend with any advertiser in last week's GEM.

The competition runs every week throughout 2014 with a potential prize fund of £1,150.

Congratulations to Sam!

REMEMBER TO LIKE US AND SHARE ON FACEBOOK: facebook.com/glamorgangem

Tenovus Ladies' annual lunch

THE annual Tenovus Ladies' Lunch, sponsored by Western Power Distribution (WPD), will be held at The St David's Hotel and Spa on Friday, October 3 from 12pm.

Following the success of their 1940's themed lunch last October, this year's theme will be 'Handbags and Gladrags'. Attendees are asked to "dress up in their finest gladrags, bring their best arm candy and enjoy a sophisticated lunchtime of fashion and fine dining".

Welsh jewellery designer Carrie Elspeth will be giving a talk and The Style Team, with personal stylist Wenda James-Rowe, will offer stylish tips and tricks to guests!

Each year, over 2,600 people are diagnosed with breast cancer in Wales.

The charity lunch raises vital funds during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, with those attending helping to support breast cancer patients throughout Wales.

For full details and to book a table, call 029 2076 8860 or visit www.tenovus.org.uk

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Ambulance chief stepping down from his Welsh role

IT has been announced that Elwyn Price-Morris is stepping down as Chief Executive of the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust on September 30.

The Trust Board has also announced that Tracy Myhill will succeed him on an interim basis "pending the recruitment and selection of a substantive replacement".

She is currently deputy Chief Executive of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, and will take up the post on October 1 for a period of 12 – 18 months.

A spokesperson said: "Elwyn has been suffering with serious health problems for the past six months. Although he has continued to work until recently, he has now accepted medical advice that he needs to take time away from the workplace in order that the situation can be properly assessed and that the necessary steps can be taken to improve his health.

"Elwyn has held discussions with the chairman of the Trust and they have reached a mutual decision that in his own interest and the interests of the service, he will not be returning to the Chief Executive's post once his health issues are resolved.

"This will enable the Trust to bring in new leadership at a critical time in the organisation's development and allow Elwyn to seek out new opportunities to utilise his extensive experience of the Welsh public sector."

Mick Giannasi, Trust Chairman, added that: "Elwyn has led the Trust very ably for the last four years and has made a significant contribution to the development of the organisation.

"While there are still significant challenges to be addressed, not least the need to improve current levels of performance, he leaves the organisation in a stronger position than when he took it over.

"I wish him every success in what he ultimately decides to do in the future, but for now, resolving his health issues has to be his number one priority."

Tracy Myhill said: "I feel privileged to have the opportunity to lead the Trust at this time and look forward to building on the progress made by Elwyn, the team and staff at the organisation. The Welsh Ambulance Service is a vital and highly valued service for the people of Wales.

"I look forward to fworking with others on the challenges needing to be addressed, so that the service we provide is highly regarded by all."

SAVE OUR GREEN FIELDS
PROTECT THE GATEWAY TO COWBRIDGE

'HAVEN OF TREES' UNIT IS AIMING TO DESTIGMATISE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

THE new £88m mental health unit for adults at University Hospital Llandough has been named 'Hafan y Coed' (Haven of Trees) in an effort to destigmatise mental health issues.

The modern, purpose-built 135-bed inpatient facility will bring together existing adult and specialist services provided at Whitchurch Hospital and the Llanfair Unit, under one roof.

At a recent Cardiff and Vale University Health Board meeting, a report was submitted to the board, following consultation with patients and staff.

Clinical project lead Simone Jocelyn, who wrote the report, said:

"The unit is expected to meet the aspirations and hopes of service users and they have expressed a wish that the building needs to exhibit a change in perspective of mental health issues and services.

"The space needs to express openness, safety, caring and recovery.

"Many people's lives are enhanced by nature and this theme should be able to meet that need and provide a talking point within the unit.

"The unit utilised gardens, outside areas and art to offer warmth and inspiration to the user's experience.

"Through nature, we can express and fulfil ourselves, and engage with other people in ways that other forms of communication do not offer.

"Leaves and trees are positive imagery. Tree names are being utilised to name the wards, promoting associations with the natural environment and the seasons, and provide a connection with natural processes and a stress-free environment.

"Nature, as a theme for the unit and ward names, would assist a comprehensive approach to the building."

Construction is expected to be completed in January 2016.

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Keep Wales Tidy awards

KEEP Wales Tidy is again calling on volunteer groups, schools and organisations to put their names forward for the Tidy Wales awards. Could this be the year and the chance to win a £250 cash prize?

The awards recognise groups who work to improve their environment through reducing litter, protecting wildlife habitats; and also create links in communities, bringing people together and in some instances reducing the impact of poverty.

Download an application form from the Keep Wales Tidy website www.keepwalestidy.org or e-mail twa@keepwalestidy.org.

David Melding AM

Welsh Conservative Assembly Member for South Wales Central covering the Vale of Glamorgan

David will be holding advice surgeries between 10 a.m. and midday at 29 High Street, Barry. CF62 7EB on the following dates during the autumn. No appointment is necessary:

10th October, 31st October,
14th November and 28th November.

If you would like to get in touch with David about any issue or problem, please contact him at:

The National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA
Tel: 02920898732
e-mail: david.melding@wales.gov.uk

EyePAT's Big Lottery award to run Happy Kids Don't Bully assemblies

EyePAT CIC in the Vale has been awarded a grant from the Big Lottery Fund to run its successful Happy Kids Don't Bully Workshops in 15 schools in Rhondda Cynon Taff, Neath Port Talbot, Torfaen and Gwent.

"The reason chronic bullying is taking place is because the 'Bully' is displaying a coping behaviour to try and deal with their own insecurities, fears and issues. EyePAT's Happy Kids and Happy People's programme works, as it gets to the root cause of the problem," Penny Steinhauer, EyePAT's Training Director explained.

"There are basically four different types of bully. Accidental, Opportunistic, Health Issues and Chronic. Happy Kids and Happy People Don't Bully are designed specifically to work with the Chronic Bully, the malicious bully.."

The concept behind these workshops was developed initially with Bridgend Restorative Justice Team for a conference for Mental Health Matters Wales. The EyePAT workshops were officially launched in July 2013 at the Senedd and were sponsored by Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale.

EyePAT run the workshops in schools under the title Happy Kids Don't Bully, and in the workplace as Happy People Don't Bully.

Vale-based Penny is looking forward to speaking at the Cardiff Against Bullying's Young People's Conference, in Cardiff City Stadium on October 23.

ABOVE: Penny Steinhauer.

NFU down on the farm

NFU Cymru president Stephen James, deputy president John Davies and Milk Board chairman Aled Jones, will be guest speakers at the Glamorgan NFU Cymru meeting on October 9 at 11am in Goldsland Farm, Wenvoe, by permission of Abi Reader, the county chairman.

Goldsland Farm is a mixed beef, sheep, arable and dairy unit and members will be able to take a tour of the new milking parlour facility.

Homeless puppy 'pawpers' are looking for love!

DOGS TRUST Bridgend is appealing for a loving home for two special residents: adorable 12-week-old lurcher pups, Isaac and Inca, didn't have the best start in life which began before their mother Isla came to the Rehoming Centre.

Isaac and Inka.

Isla endured a horrific ordeal living as a stray on the streets of Bridgend. She managed to survive on scraps from local shopkeepers for months, before she was attacked by youths, who threw sticks and stones at her until she collapsed.

Amazingly, not only did Isla survive the ordeal, but when a kind passerby rushed her to a local vet for treatment, it was discovered that she was also heavily pregnant. Miraculously, a few weeks later she even gave birth to eight healthy puppies, including Inca and Isaac.

She was then passed to Dogs Trust Bridgend and fortunately the plucky pooch soon recovered after plenty of TLC from her carers at the Rehoming Centre. Not only has she found the loving new family she deserves but has also seen six of her eight puppies find loving homes of their own.

The icing on the cake would be for her last two pups to also find their forever homes.

Dogs Trust Bridgend Supporter Relations Officer, Linda Feagan explains "Inca and Isaac are affectionate, fun loving puppies looking for loving, patient owners who have the time to commit to training young puppies and helping them settle in.

Both can live with other compatible dogs and children as young as eight. They are fantastic dogs who will make super pets in the right homes.

"We were delighted to see Isla find the wonderful happy ending which she deserves and it would just be perfect for this little family to see them all find happy homes of their own. Sadly, Isla witnessed the worst of humanity when she was forced to live on the streets, so we are desperate that her pups will only know the very best, in loving homes for life."

*Anyone interested in offering the puppies – or other dogs at the centre – a new home, should call Dogs Trust Bridgend on **01656 725 219**, or visit **www.dogstrust.org.uk***

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First Minister demands a 'Constitutional Convention' following vote in Scotland

FOLLOWING the result of the referendum on independence in Scotland – won by the 'No' vote – the focus has turned to constitutional reform and how a fair funding settlement for the constituent parts of the United Kingdom can be achieved.

Wales' concerns are the £300m a year funding gap in the Barnett Formula that favours Scotland and Northern Ireland – and whether more powers will be devolved to the Welsh Government.

UK politicians have indicated that there will be no change in the Barnett Formula, and in England there have been calls for Scottish MPs to lose their right to vote on laws affecting English people.

Welsh politians are anxious that their voice is heard as the debate over the future government of the UK gains momentum.

The First Minister, Carwyn Jones, who is the AM for Bridgend, welcomed the Scottish 'No' vote which he said was in the interests of the different parts of the United Kingdom.

But in a press conference he insisted the UK's constitutional arrangements had to be properly examined.

"I have long called for a constitutional convention – for more than two years now. That would draw up a future settlement which reflects the aspirations of the UK's constituent parts."

He went on: "Wales' under funding needs to be addressed. We are under funded to the tune of £300 per year. That's money that could be spent on our NHS and on education in Wales.

Welsh Conservative Leader Andrew RT Davies AM, who lives in the Vale, said: "Welsh Conservatives remain open-minded about the future of devolution for Wales and other parts of the UK, but change must be driven by the people.

"Any changes to the constitutional settlement must be focused on improving the lives of the people of Wales – and not playing to politicians' egos."

The general election is just seven months away – May 7, 2015 – and constitutional experts have warned politicians that changes made in haste could be damaging in the long term.

LIFT group meetings

VOLUNTARY organisation LIFT (Life Is For Today) is a self-help group for those affected by breast cancer, which meets once a fortnight in Cowbridge to offer support and friendship for people living in the Vale.

A range of relaxation therapies, trips out, visiting speakers, or just time to talk with others in a similar situation is offered.

The next LIFT group meeting will be on Wednesday, October 8, between 10am and 1pm; then again on Wednesday, October 22 between 2pm and 4pm. New members are warmly welcomed.

Contact Anne on 01446 772843, or Jan on 01446 774575 for further information, or programme of events for this autumn 2014.

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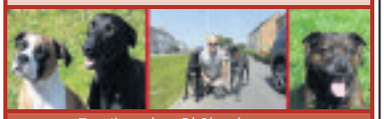
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An evening with Sir Roger *quite delightful!*

THEY say that your favourite James Bond is the one that you first see on the screen – and for me that was Roger Moore.

While in later life I would learn that Moore's take on 007 was away from the character Ian Fleming had created on the page, his films and performance as Bond left an indelible mark upon me.

With that in mind, it was with great delight I attended An Evening with Sir Roger Moore at St David's Hall, Cardiff, where he would talk at length about his life in the film world and more besides.

Having read his autobiography, *My Word is My Bond,* and devoured the tales of the golden age of cinema and his life as 007, I was looking forward to seeing Sir Roger in the flesh and hearing at first hand his tales – and he certainly didn't disappoint.

With his biographer Gareth Owen coaxing and leading him, Moore's recounting of a life which began an incredible 86 years ago (and with Moore having last performed in Cardiff in 1949 in the New Theatre) was delivered with warmth, wit and self-deprecation.

The first half of the show saw Moore talk about his time as contract player with MGM and Warner Bros (both of whom saw fit to 'fire' him, as he jokingly pointed out several times), then onto his work on television with *The Saint* and *The Persuaders*, with the second half given over to a question and answer session with the audience, which was equal parts cringeable and amusing (the former certainly not because of Moore), and a look back at his time as James Bond.

What was most apparent was Moore's gratitude and a humility that he was able to work with such great actors and directors, and while his subtle mockery of his own talents was humorous, modesty obviously prevented him from blowing his horn too often (and, yes, that line was delivered with a Moore-esque arched eyebrow).

An incredible evening of listening to a seasoned raconteur deliver some great stories, was concluded with a touching tale of how, through Audrey Hepburn, he became involved in UNICEF, capping what was a superbly entertaining evening with a true legend.

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Steve takes sporting chance to join choir!

Steve (right) with Gareth and Dorothy.

STEPHEN JAMES, the most recent recruit to the Barry Male Voice Choir was warmly welcomed by choir chairman Gareth Roberts and musical director Dorothy Connell at a recent rehearsal.

Stephen, a long standing local sportsman, said: "I'm delighted to become a member of the choir. In the short time that I've been attending rehearsals, I've been made to feel very welcome and already feel part of a new team."

Chairman Gareth Roberts commented: "Stephen is the first of what we hope will be a number of new members. The choir is planning a recruitment campaign for November.

"This will give any interested men a chance to be gently introduced into choral singing in informal surroundings. Further details will soon be available. The only requirement is being interested in and wanting to sing!"

For further information, see www.barrymalevoicechoir.co.uk, also on Facebook and Twitter.

Big transformation on the way at Crossway Methodist Church

CROSSWAY Methodist Church has mounted a new cross on the outside of the building.

The Rev Peter Taylor told The GEM: "We now have a great new replacement cross on the Court Road side. It was made by Barrie Lockyer, a gentleman who attend our 'Open Door' mid week group run by the church community.

"The cross and a time capsule – stored in the building – were dedicated as part of the morning worship on September. There will be interior changes too.

The Rev Taylor explaind: "As a Church, we are planning some small but significant changes to our interior.

"This 'space' project is all about creating a more flexible space for the church and community groups.

"We are having a new sanctuary platform area built with a demountable communion rail by Salevon, a Barry firm, and we are removing some pews.

"There will be new carpeting as well as some planned enhancements to the audio and visual system.

"We will also have some new chairs, some in the church space and the majority for the hall. The work will take place during October.

"All of this will of course mean some serious expenditure for the church. We are grateful to the VOG Council Welsh Churches Act Trust and the Vale Methodist Circuit and Wales Synod for their generous support.

"The church is planning some fund raising in the coming months and year.

"On Saturday, September 27 from 2pm–4pm, Crossway Methodist Church is holding a 'Gift Day'.

"It is an opportunity to give thanks to God for our church and to help in our mission, ministry and community outreach now and in the coming years.

"All gifts received will be used towards the fund raising for the 'Church Physical and Spiritual Space' project.

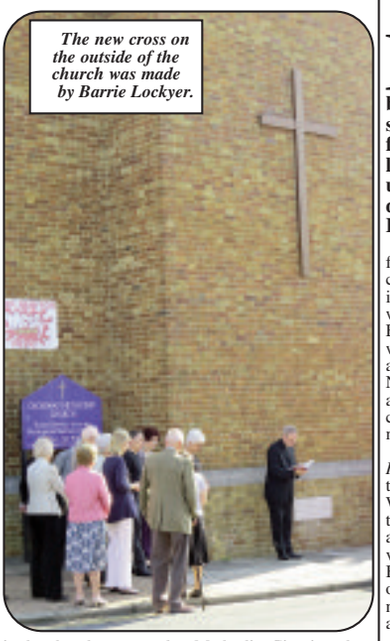
"Refreshments will be available. Feel free to sit in prayer and quiet in the church. Stay for as little or long as you can.

"There will be the opportunity to donate towards this project at the Sunday morning service (September 28) at 11am if you cannot get along.

"Look out for more fundraising events, such as a quiz night and concerts in the coming months!"

Some pews are to be sold to raise funds.

For more information on how to support the church, the Rev Taylor can be contacted on 01446 406262.



The new cross on the outside of the church was made by Barrie Lockyer.

Scherfig's Riot Club a dark and dangerous place...

DIRECTOR Lone Scherfig may be Danish, but she seems to have a fascination with the lives of the upwardly mobile denizens of England.

Her breakthrough film, *An Education,* captured the life of an impressionable young woman in 1960s England wonderfully well, while her adaptation of David Nicholls' *One Day* was a romantic comedy/drama for the middle classes.

Her latest film, *The Riot Club*, is based on the play *Posh* by Laura Wade (who also writes the screenplay here), and is a fictionalised version of the infamous Bullingdon Club which once counted among its number David Cameron and Boris Johnson.

Here we follow Miles (Max Irons) and Alistair (Sam Claflin), two first year students determined to join the infamous Riot Club, where reputations can be made or destroyed over the course of a single evening. However, the reality of the club soon hits home and loyalty is tested by a chain of events...

Adapting a play for the big screen can be fraught with dangers, particularly one that sees the play's writer doing the adapting, as the tendency to make the film look like a staged performance rather than a film is always high.

It's a trap that *The Riot Club* falls into, and while it makes for an entertaining watch, slowly twisting the tension and drama, it feels a little soft-soaked in its aims and can't quite shake off its origins.

Lone Scherfig isn't a supreme visualist as a director, more one who is capable of using the camera to subtly tease out performance and drive the narrative along; and while there's no question that she does that, there are very few moments where the film feels propelled by any great deal of kinetic energy.

Instead, it feels a little staid, reminiscent of a TV drama rather than a film, with only the climactic meal really hooking you.

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

Scherfig's CV makes her a good choice of director for material of this ilk, and aside from the visual shortcomings, she does a good job of holding the story together and taking a magnifying class to the upper classes, whose sense of entitlement and status are the fuel that the film fires on.

Wade's screenplay doesn't put Scherfig on the front foot by any means, as what feels like a posh, Oxford-set episode of *The Inbetweeners* plays broad comedy, before descending into the dark recesses – as feelings, emotions and resentments bubble towards the surface.

But while the opening is offensively humorous (why valet your expensive car when you can just buy a new one and donate the old one to a charity shop?), it doesn't develop your characters enough for the dramatic denouement.

The time when you really need to be invested in the characters you'll be struggling to remember their names.

That isn't to say the performances are bad. Max Irons (son of Jeremy and Sinead Cusack) offers us proles a turn as a posh boy with an empathy for the working classes, and delivers a decent performance, discovering that once you enter the rabbit hole of the club, you'll struggle to get out.

Sam Claflin as the pent-up Alistair seethes with issues of being in the shadow of his older brother (a *Riot Club* 'legend'), whose anger manifests itself in a horrifying way.

The rest of the cast are all fine, but being given little to do, you will find yourself held in by these two performances and faintly remembering the rest, who do hold up the weight when action switches to the club's annual meal in a countryside gastro pub, the ramifications of which lead to a conclusion that feels undercooked.

It's an accusation that can be levelled at Wade and, to a degree, Scherfig; ultimately, the message of the film is that money, status and power are unquenchable and all-powerful, and those with it have scant concern for those without ("You're no better than kids smashing shop windows," says the landlord of the aforementioned pub when things get out of control). But if it's trying for satire, it only really raises the 'ire' part, the students' behaviour ranging from funny to downright disgusting; the satire, though, doesn't hit the target.

The Riot Club still makes for a decent night's watch, the story ebbing and flowing, and delivers some intrigue as events play out, but while thematically interesting, the execution doesn't quite pay off.

VERDICT: An intriguing film, *The Riot Club* is more than watchable, but hampered by its inherent stage-based nature, that Lone Scherfig fails to remedy. Laura Wade, adapting from her own play, aims high, but a lack of bite and inability to really satirise these characters means that you go along for a ride that slowly turns darker and more destructive. *Enjoyable*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The History Boys* (2006), *Doubt* (2008).

Out and About with The GEM

Movietime at Colwinston!

COLWINSTON is the latest village in the rural Vale to establish a 'pop-up' cinema and will be showing the epic blockbuster *Edge of Tomorrow* starring Tom Cruise and Emily Blunt on September 27 in Colwinston Village Hall at 8pm.

"We've enjoyed a lot of local support for the project, from Creative Rural Communities, Vale of Glamorgan Council for loaning the professional equipment and from our fellow Vale cineastes in Llancarfan and Murchfield Film Societies in helping us to put on a good show," comments David Fernie.

"We had a good audience for our first screening of *Philomena* in May and this encouraged us to put together a full programme of films for the autumn season.

Tickets £6 on the door, or £4.50 in advance from the Sycamore Tree Inn, Colwinston.

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Vintage fun for everyone!

THE late Victorian railway station at Barry Island used to boast one of the longest covered platforms in the UK.

This Sunday, the station including the ticket office, waiting room and covered platform, will be playing host to a vintage market.

Vintage in the Vale takes advantage of this great setting to showcase some local vintage, collectables, shabby chic and handmade products – the stallholders are all from the local area.

Join in the vintage fun at Barry Island Railway Station from 10.20 am to 3pm onn September 28.

Penarth surgery

ELUNED Parrott, AM for South Wales Central, will be holding an advice surgery at Tesco Superstore, Terra Nova Way, Penarth, CF64 1SA between 1pm and 2pm on September 26.

Residents who have issues of concern to them or their local community, are encouraged to pop along. No appointment is necessary.

Family fun

EVERYONE is invited to a free harvest family fun event on Saturday, September 27 at Bethel Baptist Church, Barry.

Craft activities from 4.10pm; celebration including a puppet show from 5.10pm; and food from 5.30pm.

Llantwit coffee

THERE will be a coffee morning at Llantwit Major Bowls Club on Saturday, September 27 at 10am – 12pm. Entrance is £3; there will be a book stall, cakes for sale and bric-a-brac. Everyone welcome.

Coffee morning

A COFFEE morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support will be held in the All Saints' Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth on Saturday, September 27 at 10am until noon. Entry £1 (to include tea/coffee). *Bargains for all!*

Knight school!

COSMESTON Medieval Village is opening a Knight School on September 27 – 28!

The public can watch knights training throughout the day, with practice battles taking place at 12pm and 3pm. Entry is free.

DON'T MISS THE...
BARRY Nr. Cardiff
TOY & TRAIN SALE
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Town walk

PLAID Cymru councillor Ian Johnson will lead a walk in Barry, in coordination with the Tiger Bay Ramblers, on September 28, from 10.30am (Dock Offices car park near Barry Docks train station) ending on Barry Island.

The walk is expected to last around four hours. There is no charge. Contact Ian Johnson on 07738 182867.

RNLI Porthcawl

THE Quilts raffle will be drawn on Sunday, September 28 at 12 noon in the RNLI shop, Porthcawl; last chance to purchase tickets to win one of the quilts on display in the RNLI shop.

Toy and train sale

BARRY Leisure Centre in Greenwood Street is hosting the next Toy and Train Sale shortly, on Sunday, September 28 between 10.30am and 3pm – the second of this type at this venue in 2014 with another to follow in late November.

The sister event, Cardiff Toy and Train Sale, will be held at Penarth Leisure Centre on October 11.

Organiser Chris Dyer said this week: "Barry attracts a great range of traders from both sides of the Severn Bridge and a wonderful array of stock is always available from all the big names, such as Dinky, Corgi, Matchbox, EFE, Tri-ang, Hornby, Lima, Wrenn, Bachmann etc.

"This Barry show is already almost fully-booked with traders and 'house full' is expected by the day of the sale."

Tel: (01643) 702757 and 07966 694579; www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk.

Tax advice

AGE Connect Cardiff and Vale are holding a free tax advice surgery at The Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Monday, September 29 (9.30am – 11.30am).

No appointment is needed, with professional tax adviser. Contact 01446 732385 for further information. Home visits can also be arranged.

Flower arrangers

THE Cowbridge and District Flower Arrangers club will meet at 7.30pm on Wednesday, October 1 in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge Town Hall, when Alwyn Page will give a demonstration entitled 'Simple Pleasures.

Art Society

ON Thursday, October 2, Cowbridge Art Society welcomes Cardiff artist Richard Blunt, who will give a demonstration in chalk and charcoal.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm – 9pm) and visitors and new members are welcome. For details of the society's activities, see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

Choral society concert

ST ILLTYD'S Church in Llantwit Major is the venue for the Cowbridge Choral Society's 'Falling Leaves' concert at 7.30pm on Saturday, October 4.

The choir will be conducted by Carole Lloyd, director of music, and accompanied by Geoff Howells in a programme of well known classical pieces, as well as popular songs from the early 20th century. There will also be some guest performances. Tickets are available from Davies newsagent in Cowbridge, or the box office on 01446 792175.

The society rehearses every Thursday at 7.30pm in the United Free Church, Westgate Street (opposite the Police Station). All are welcome.

Stand-up line-up at comedy club

BRIDGEND is set to welcome some of Wales' and the UK's best comedy talent in the form of Bridgend Comedy Club at The Railway pub on October 6 from 8pm.

The first Monday of every month will see three great acts hand picked by MC Chris Chopping. He promises experienced performers who have gigged across the UK to appreciative audiences. Chris himself is an award winning comic and reached the final of this year's Welsh Unsigned Stand up Award.

The stellar line up for the next show features a wealth of Welsh wit: Geraint Evans and star of S4C's Gigl, Steffan Alun. Tickets £4 on the door.

TaxHelp for older people

A TOP's income tax surgery offering free professional advice to older people on a restricted income will be held at Roz Couzens' Chiropody surgery, Unit 4, Commercial House, Commercial Street, Llantwit Major CF61 1RB on October 6, from 10am – midday.

No appointment is necessary. To access the TOP's helpline, telephone 0845 601 3321 or 01308 488066. Home visits can also be arranged via this helpline for people unable to attend the surgery.

Dolls house exhibition

THE Mid Glamorgan Dolls' House and Miniaturist Group will hold its annual dolls' house exhibition on Saturday, October 11 from 10am-4pm at the Town Hall, Cowbridge.

Entrance fee, adults £1, children over 5, 50p. Displays, sales tables, light refreshments. All proceeds go to Noah's Ark Children's Hospital Charity.

Bingo back with a bang!

FOLLOWING on the holidays, the first session of the Royal British Legion autumn series bingo in Cowbridge was a great success.

All the regulars were there and a few more recruits... Some said that after burning themselves on a sun-soaked foreign beach, it was a great relief to be back to the stimulating, intellectual pursuit of bingo!

I was threatened not to mention HH's forthcoming birthday, otherwise there would be serious consequences – so I haven't!

It would be ungallant to mention her age, but it had a nought in it and it was not 10.

Well, why not join us for the next session on Thursday, October 2 at the Lesser Hall of Cowbridge Town Hall? Doors open at 7pm; eyes down 7.30 promptly.

Apart from cash prizes for bingo, there will be valuable prizes for the raffle, the first one being a valuable voucher from a local hostelry. So please turn up, not forgetting your Dabber and your own wine!

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Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm Sat 9am – 12pm

Appeal for witnesses after a street assault in Barry

BARRY police are appealing for witnesses to an assault in the town at around 11.50pm on Friday, August 8, when a 36-year-old man was walking along Broad Street towards the old cinema.

He noticed two men who started shouting at the victim and then began punching him several times to the head. They are described as being 18 – 23 years of age. The victim went to University Hospital Wales for treatment to injuries which included bruising to both eyes.

If you have any information, contact South Wales Police on 101, quoting reference 1400296929. Alternatively contact Crimestoppers free and anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

Live a life of adventure

WITH MARIA LEIJERSTAM

Double world record holder Maria Leijerstam from the Vale, founder of the Burn Series of multisport events and qualified personal trainer, inspires you with a weekly column on simple family sporting adventures in the beautiful countryside of south Wales.

DID you know that nutrition in sport is just as important as the training itself? Many people come to me just prior to an event they are due to take part in and ask why they are feeling tired or unwell or why parts of their body are aching.

The first thing I say is that you need to think of your body as a machine so that what you put in, you get out.

If you fill yourself with 'empty calorie' foods which are high in calories from saturated fat and sugar, but very low in vital nutritional ingredients, for example, foods such as chips, chocolate and biscuits, it won't take long for your body to begin to complain. I always advise to try and replace these items with nutritional foods, the best ones being those of a single ingredient that have not been processed in any way.

We need also to remember that our bodies are highly intelligent machines and unlike mechanical machines, which are predictable, our bodies are not because they go through a process of adaptation based on what we do.

This is what makes the human body so

incredible.

Oscar Wilde's saying of 'everything in moderation, including moderation' can't be closer to the truth. Sometimes we need to trick our bodies as the adaptation process slows down and our intelligent bodies know what we are up to.

Given all of this, the simple message of living a life of activity and adventure is to fuel, rest and reward ourselves. Many people over train and simply need to rest and some people are not balancing the vital energy sources going into the body with what is being used up.

Next time you head out on a sporting adventure, make sure the night before and in the morning you fuel yourself with nutritional foods of the correct quantity for what you're about to do. Once you've completed your activity you need to rest and help your body to repair with protein based foods. Once this is all done, make sure you don't forget a reward.

It's not too late to set yourselves a family challenge, sign up at www.burnseries.co.uk

Footnote:

This column is provided for idea purposes only. Always check with your doctor if you have any concerns about your health prior to embarking on any form of physical activity and always let someone know where you are going.

The GEM newspaper and Multisport Ltd are not responsible or liable, directly, indirectly or consequentially, for any form of damages whatsoever resulting from the use (or misuse) of information contained in or implied by the column.

Turn your apples into glass of juice!

AN Applefest is being held at Llanmaes Village Hall this Saturday, September 27, between 2pm-5pm.

"If people bring along their apples, they will go home with freshly-made apple juice, which is delicious!" a spokeswoman said. "There will be lots of activities for children and adults alike to join in."

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN £25

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You will find the answer in that week's GEM which is available online and in print every Thursday.

Inbox us your answer and contact details. Competition closes at 5pm every Monday.

Every week a winner is chosen at random and will have £25 to spend with any advertiser in that week's GEM!

Like us on facebook: facebook.com/glamorgangem

Last chance to vote for your favourite park

RESIDENTS in the Vale are being urged to cast their vote for the annual People's Choice Award to decide which of the 1,482 Green Flag Award parks should be named the UK's Park of the Year.

The Vale was awarded five Green Flag awards in 2014. Belle Vue Park in Penarth and Victoria Park in Barry retained their green flag status from last year, and there were new awards for both Romilly Park and Central Park in Barry, as well as Alexandra Park and Windsor Gardens in Penarth.

Now all five are in the running to be named the UK's favourite park.

To vote, visit www.greenflagaward.org , select your country or region on the interactive map, find your favourite park or green space, and click the 'vote for this site' button.

You can also vote at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk under 'green flag award'.

The vote will close at 12pm on September 30 and the winner of the 2014 People's Choice will be announced on October 16.

Butlins camp remembered

A BLUE plaque will be unveiled by the Mayor of the Vale, Coun Howard Hamilton, on September 27 in the new seafront garden on Barry Island, part of the £3m refurbishment of the coastline round Nell's Point.

The plaque, paid for by private subscription, commemorates the Butlins holiday camp that occupied the whole site from 1966–1986 and its operator, the showman and philanthropist, Sir William 'Billy' Butlin.

POLICE BIKE MARKING WAS A 'GREAT SUCCESS'

A RECENT bike marking event in Penarth, hosted jointly by South Wales Police and British Transport Police, was "a great success."

Residents and cyclists alike made the most of the free bike marking scheme with 58 bikes being marked along with three scooters. Additionally, laptops, mobile phones and tablets were also security marked for local residents.

While the bikes were being marked, security tips were given to cyclists by PCSO Gareth Parry from South Wales Police in a bid to reduce and prevent cycle theft in the area. Additional advice was given by PC Ceri Frost from British Transport Police on the safety of passenger property while travelling on trains.

PCSO Gareth Parry said: "We are delighted with the response from the community, who made the most of the security advice available and the bike marking.

"This was an opportunity for residents to meet with their local Police Community Support Officers in an informal setting and it was a great success".

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D845.

- **£2,000:** 320404.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £1,500 was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 795924, 835909, 531947, 786835, 764951, 690005, 586346, 188485, 821756, 937392, 238207, 640961, 223528, 741992, 462143, 742791, 953059, 783503, 614970, 362809.
- **£5:** 423173, 163466, 205148, 479693, 855269, 330296, 687073, 129243, 248998, 612633, 152915, 363214, 483131, 595249, 102990, 853223, 372538, 488702, 213464, 319414, 172916, 217521, 354288, 278308, 784261, 523034, 337380, 447048, 696771, 710280, 587492, 204805, 609015, 388514, 536591, 318859, 312314, 103778, 683925, 453338, 313747, 704603, 106746, 709965, 845363, 302589, 318067, 198007, 669356, 810334, 272230, 509715, 232093, 536961, 446917, 848063, 284808, 000498, 000103, 000473.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

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Christmas Menu 2014 - £25 per person
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Friday 12th December • Saturday 13th December
Cocktail on arrival - entertainment 'til late...

STARTER
Goats Cheese & Roasted Red Pepper Tart
Prawn Cocktail
Our own Chicken Liver Paté, Caramelised Red Onion Chutney & Melba Toast
Winter Vegetable Soup
MAIN COURSE
Turkey Roast - Cranberry, Bacon & Sage Stuffing
Pan Roasted Red Snapper with Dill & Caper Butter
Portobello Mushroom Top with Tomato, Basil & Parmesan (V)
Lamb Rump - Redcurrant and Rosemary Jus
8oz Rib Eye Steak with Roquefort Glaze
Roast Sirloin with Yorkshire Pudding
All served with seasonal vegetables
DESSERT
Selection of desserts on the night
Coffee or Tea with Mints

Transport available - £5 return
Bookings available for other dates in December without entertainment
£10 DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED AT TIME OF BOOKING

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Bonfire Night
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Christmas Party Guide

The pleasures of country dining can enhance your Christmas party

THERE is a lot to be said for planning an office Christmas party – or a family one – as a real outing, and this really brings into focus the many virtues of the Vale.

So many venues – be they country pubs, hotels or establishments in small villages – are now tuned into welcoming parties, and they have become skilled at meeting all requirements.

Hiring a mini-van or coach can be part of the build-up to the evening, and can increase the'buzz' and camaraderie, getting everyone relaxed and in a party mood before you set foot in the venue.

It also, to state the obvious, takes care of the drink/drive problem!

So much has changed over the years when it comes to dining.

Time was when each establishment had its own, verypredictable style of cuisine.

Country pubs would serve up something home-cooked, wholesome and traditional.

If part of a chain, you would be in prawn cocktail, steak and black forest gateau territory.

For good Italian food, go to an Italian. Ditto for Indian, French or Spanish. It was one style of food per establishment, resulting in endless arguments over how to choose where to eat.

Nowadays, menus can be put together that have an excellent chance of satisfying the varied tastes of any random group of diners-out.

As customers have become more discerning – and this may well be due to all the *Masterchef*-style programmes on TV – so local chefs have responded.

Last year, on a short walking holiday in Italy, I found myself attached to a group of French walkers.

(CONTINUED ON FACING PAGE).

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Christmas Party Guide

Christmas parties – in the country!

(Continued from facing page).

It was noticeable that every evening, they would collar the chef and quiz him or her on what they would be serving and how it would be prepared.

All three courses would be discussed, including the dessert

After the meal, the chef would be invited out for a question and answer session

The only thing missing was marks out of 10 ***a la Strictly.***

High expectations such as these go some way to explaing why food in France and Italy is so good.

It's really encouraging to note that we are moving in the same direction in this country, and discerning Vale diners can definitely look forward to enjoying the result!

Christmas at...

Sportsman's Rest

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AND

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"The pub on the pond"

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CHRISTMAS FESTIVE EVENING MENU

2 Course £16.50 • 3 Course £22.00
Served Mon-Sat evenings 6.00-9.00pm

STARTERS
Cream of Roasted Parsnip Soup
Smoked Salmon, Cream Cheese and Chive Roulade
Wild Mushroom & Goats Cheese Tart • Ham Hock Terrine

MAINS
Roast Turkey • Braised Ox Cheeks • Sea Bass Fillets
Spinach & Ricotta Cannelloni • Roasted Gammon Joint
Main courses are accompanied by golden roasted potatoes and seasonal vegetables unless stated otherwise.

DESSERTS
Baileys and White Chocolate Cheesecake • Winterberry Pavlova
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GEM columnist Maria scoops business award

ABOVE:
Left to right: Awards founder Wesley Skene, Maria Leijerstam, Sara Edwards the awards host, and Alun Cairns MP for the Vale.

WORLD record holding adventurer and Vale businesswoman, Maria Leijerstam, has been recognised for her contribution to Welsh Business & Society at the South Wales Business Awards 2014.

On September 12, Maria, who writes a column for The GEM, was recognised with the honorary award, for her outstanding world record achievement of solo cycling from the edge of the Antarctic continent to the South Pole.

Maria is also equally adept in the business world with her own business Multisport Wales.

She commented: "It was wonderful to be part of the South Wales Business Awards 2014 and to see so many successful businesses. Companies run by young entrepreneurs that have reached £1m turnover in south Wales is no longer unheard of; it is now becoming the norm.

The awards ceremony was an astute and admirable way of recognizing those who have worked tirelessly in achieving their goals that in turn has contributed to strengthening the south Wales economy."

Maria was presented with her award by Welsh Office Minister – Alun Cairns, MP for the Vale.

"Each company collecting accolades at these awards started as an idea, so it is great to see the hard work being rewarded.

"I was particularly pleased to present an award to Vale local Maria Leijerstam, who has achieved so much in so many fields," Mr Cairns said.

Local man's leading role at prestigious world golf congress

PROUD dad Derek Smith, Cottrell Park's general manager, reports that son Adam took a leading role at a prestigious golfing event in Australia.

On September 7, Adam presented his research at Golf Science: A World Scientific Congress of Golf on the Gold Coast.

The prestigious event is held every two years but this was the first time it has been held outside of St Andrews or Phoenix.

It attracts the world's leading experts in golf research, strength and conditioning, biomechanics, golf health and coaching, who come together to discuss all aspects of golf science.

"There is extremely strong competition to have a paper accepted for such a recognised event, so to be asked to complete a podium presentation on his research was an incredible achievement for Adam," Mr Smith said.

Adam's presentation to delegates from around the world was on 'The Impact of Warm-Up Routines on Golf Performance – Pulse Raiser v Non Pulse Raiser'.

This was very well received, with numerous delegates showing an interest in Adam's research completed at Myerscough College – where, of course, he plays golf!

Adam is now looking to continue his research on warm-up routines, particularly with the over-50s.

WHAT'S ON

IN BRIEF

Air concerns about buses

ON October 2 Bus Users UK and Bridgend Council are organising a Your Bus Matters event in Bridgend bus station from 10am – 2pm,.

The public can meet representatives from First Cymru and staff with responsibility for transport issues from BCBC to discuss their concerns.

Boosting Velindre

ON September 26 (10am – 2pm) there is a Macmillan coffee morning (coffee, cakes, raffle, handmade gifts) at the Old Post Office cafe, Holton Road, Barry.

Barbara Entwhistle (one of the regulars) who raised £1,800 by selling chicks for Velindre, is on a mission to create and sell as many Christmas puddings as possible (chocolate orange) in aid of Velindre.

Anyone who would like to be involved is welcome on a Monday or Thursday between 1pm – 3pm, or contact the cafe on 01446 730116.

There are drop-in sessions in the cafe on Monday – Thursday (1pm – 3pm).

Rhoose bingo

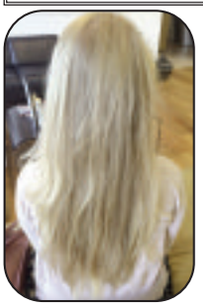
THE management committee at Rhoose Community Centre, Stewart Road are re-commencing their bingo afternoons after a summer break, on Saturday, September 27 at the hall.

Doors open at 1.45pm for a 2.30pm start. Light refreshments will be served at the half time break. All proceeds go towards hall upkeep.

Whist drives

WHIST drives restart on the last Tuesday of the month in Llancarfan Village Hall at 7.30pm (September 30).

SIAN HAS A HAIRCUT FOR LITTLE PRINCESS!



Back before...

...Front after.

Sian's story

"I HAD been thinking about having my hair cut since the end of April, but it was only recently that I decided to take the plunge and do it, especially with the return to university looming!

"Having long hair for the past six years, I was fed up and needed a change. I had heard about a charity that uses real hair for wigs and decided to do a little research. What I found was so heartwarming I had my mind made up.

"The charity Little Princess Trust provides specialist wigs **for free** to children who have undergone chemotherapy, and as a consequence, have lost their hair. They require a length of seven inches, which I was more than able to provide.

"I made my appointment at The Hair Business in Cowbridge and explained to my stylist, Janine, what I would like to do. She plaited the hair in three sections so it would not get tangled in post to the charity, and got the scissors out.

"The end result was neat and tidy (I highly recommend going there!).

"If anybody can spare the hair, please consider this charity, as a child-size wig can cost up to £2,000!

"Along with the hair donation, I have also set up a JustGiving page (https://www.justgiving.com/Sian-Hardy/) to raise 10 per cent of the £2,000 and have raised £143 in 5 days!

"Please help me make the £200 by texting SLPT82 and the amount you are willing to donate (£1/£2/£3/£4/£5/£10) to 70070. Any amount will help!"

Sian Hardy, Barry

Scout and Guides in Roman Ramble

TO commemorate 25 years of Scout/Guide involvement in the Llandough Hospital Project, on a lovely, sunny Sunday, September 21, the second 'Ramble' took place – starting near the Roman fort ruins on Cold Knap.

A total of 150 Scouting/Guiding personnel took part, from Barry, the Vale, Penarth and Cardiff.

The object of the exercise was to encourage walking and healthy eating (apples and oranges were supplied by one of the sponsors).

The ramble involved Porthkerry Park, Barry Castle, the Gorsedd Stones, and on to the Island visiting Barry At War, the Coast Guard station, the Coast Watch look-out, Whitmore Bay Surf and Lifesaving Club and Watch Tower Bay.

On completion of the circuit, everyone was awarded a Roman phallera (campaign medal).

The winners were: first – 1st Penmark Cubs (Super Explosives) 36 pts; second, Barry Brownies 36 pts; third, 2nd/4th Barry Scouts (Cracknell) 51 pts; and fourth, Dinas Powys Guides 45 pts.

Special thanks go to all the people who voluntarily opened and manned their premises for this occasion and gave a lot of their time and patience to entertain the youngsters. Also thanks to the many businesses and organisations who supported and sponsored this community effort.

The success was measured by the number of entrants who are looking forward to a similar event next year.

Unlike last year's event, this year the participants were to seek sponsorship and when all the money is collected, the presentation of trophies will be arranged.

The two charities that are to benefit from the sponsorship are the Breast Cancer Unit at Llandough Hospital and Friends of the Heritage Coast.

Jack Hardman, Community Liaison.

Cowbridge Comprehensive School
Ysgol Gyfun Y Bont Faen

Open Evening

For New Year 7 Pupils
Thursday 2nd October 2014
4.00pm - 6.30pm

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Y FRO GYMRAEG – YN FFW AC YN FFYNNU

A WELCOME FOR EVERYONE IN WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

Novel approach delivers affordable permanent capacity for fast-growing new primary school

AN imaginative approach to building design has allowed a new Welsh-medium primary school in Barry to leap-frog over the limitations of temporary structures and be fast-tracked to the forefront of modern educational environments.

From the start of this term, pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg are benefitting from the latest in classroom layout and hi-tech learning equipment, and have gained enough permanent space to grow to its full potential in pupil numbers by 2017.

The transformation has been made possible by an investment of £2.7million from the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools programme and the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

Originally Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg, which opened in September 2011 to meet rising local demand for Welsh medium education, faced the prospect of piecemeal growth through the addition of demountable classrooms as pupil numbers grew year by year.

However, this was averted by a decision of the local authority to use a standardised template school design and thereby reducing professional fees and other ancillary costs.

This is providing a new permanent structure on the same site with nursery accommodation, seven classrooms and state-of-the-art facilities for only £310,000 more than the cost of acquiring the extra pre-fabricated structures that would have been needed.

The school, which lies within the grounds of Welsh medium comprehensive Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, had experienced faster than expected growth in demand for places. With 30 more children as of this term, and the addition of a Year Three, more space was needed urgently.

Jane Wade the council's Operations Manager for Property and Delivery explained: "We were going to have another temporary solution but I happened to read something about how schools were starting to use template designs. This made us look at a different form of delivery and we were able to have a permanent solution for much the same price as the temporary solution. It not only saved money but also allowed for a reduced programme. I believe this is the first of its kind in Wales."

The construction itself was turned into a learning experience for the children with low level 'windows' cut in the hoarding around the building site so they could see what was going on. The youngsters were also introduced to Ivor Goodsite or Ifor Safle Saff, a character who promoted vital messages about construction site safety. The children also worked with community artist Christian Ryan to create special windows for the new school.

Mrs Roberts paid tribute to the contribution of her 13 staff, comprising five teachers and eight teaching assistants: "They have been very supportive throughout and have done an excellent job in challenging conditions. It's fantastic that we now have a brand new purpose built school with room to grow."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22)

Winning ways at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg!

Fun at Gwersyll yr Urdd Llangrannog for Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg.

ALTHOUGH still a comparatively new school – opened at the turn of the century – Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg in Barry has already established itself as one of the best comprehensives in Wales.

It featured in the top ten of Welsh secondary schools (4th place overall) and was ranked 1st in the 'Teaching' category in the Western Mail's Real Schools Guide 2014, published on August 2.

This year's A-Level and GCSE results have continued the school's winning ways.

A-Level pupils succeeded in turning in a 100% pass rate for the second year in succession, with each pupil attaining an E grade or above in two or more A Level subjects. 77% of all entries were graded at A*- C. Leading the way this year were the historians. One third of the cohort studied History and 100% of the pupils achieved a C grade or above in the subject. Quite an achievement for the department.

On the GCSE front, the results were outstanding, building on the success of last year's cohort with 96% of the pupils attaining 5 A*- C in GCSE or equivalent qualifications. Most notably, a fantastic 20% of the cohort (15 girls and 12 boys) achieved five or more A*/A grades which included Maths and English or Welsh.

Headteacher Dr Dylan Jones commented: "The school celebrated yet another set of excellent examination results this year and saw pupils across the ability range achieving their goals, reflecting their dedication to their studies.

"I am extremely proud of the achievements of all our pupils and delighted that as a school we continue to cater for and nurture each individual. Particular praise is due this year for the numerous pupils who achieved Distinction * in Business Studies and Music Performance BTEC courses. Congratulations to all the pupils and staff and we wish all our pupils well in the future. Well done!"

Llwyddiant llawen Y Fro

ER dal yn ysgol gymharol newydd – wedi cychwyn ar drothwy'r mileniwm – mae Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg wedi sefydlu ei hun yn un o ysgolion uwchradd gorau Cymru.

Eleni fe'i henwyd fel y bedwaredd ysgol uwchradd orau yng Nghymru a'r gorau oll yn y categori 'Dysgu' yn ôl The Real Schools Guide 2014, y Western Mail, ar Awst 2.

Eleni eto roedd y canlyniadau Safon Uwch a TGAU o'r radd flaenaf.

Llwyddodd disgyblion Safon Uwch i gadw eu record 100% am yr ail flwyddyn yn olynol. Roedd 77% o'r cofrestriadau wedi eu graddio yn A* i C. Yr haneswyr oedd yn arwain eleni. Roedd traean o'r holl ddisgyblion yn astudio Hanes a llwyddodd 100% ohonynt i gael gradd C neu yn uwch yn y pwnc – tipyn o gamp i'r adran!

Mewn TGAU neu gymhwysterau cyfwerth mi wnaeth 96% o'r disgyblion llwyddo i ennill 5 gradd A*- C. Testun balchder arbennig yw'r ffaith bod 20% o'r garfan (15 merch a 12 bachgen) wedi llwyddo i ennill pum neu fwy o raddau A*/A gan gynnwys Mathemateg a Saesneg neu Gymraeg sy'n dyst i holl ymdrechion yr adrannau.

Dywedodd Dr Dylan Jones, pennaeth: "Dathlwn lwyddiant yr holl ddisgyblion sydd wedi cyrraedd eu potensial yn yr arholiadau Safon Uwch a TGAU ac sydd wedi gweithio yn ddygn a chael eu haeddiant.

"Yn y chweched dilynodd y disgyblion gyrsiau traddodiadol academaidd yn ogystal â phynciau galwedigaethol. Mae'n rhaid cyfeirio yn benodol at lwyddiant nifer fawr o ddisgyblion yn ennill graddau Anrhydedd * mewn cyrsiau BTEC Busnes a Pherfformio Cerddoriaeth. Mae'r Fagloriaeth hefyd yn parhau i fynd o nerth i nerth gyda'r disgyblion i gyd yn elwa o fireinio amrywiaeth eang o sgiliau. Llongyfarchiadau i'r holl athrawon a disgyblion a dymunwn yn dda i'r bobl ifanc yn y dyfodol."

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Y FRO GYMRAEG – YN FFW AC YN FFYNNU

A WELCOME FOR EVERYONE IN WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

How do I find my catchment Welsh medium school..?

GO to *www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk* , enter your postcode in 'In Your Neighbourhood' and the information appears under 'Schools & Learning', 'Welsh Primary Catchment'. Or ring the Council on 01446 700111and ask for the Admissions Department.

Sut allaf ddarganfod ysgol Gymraeg fy nhalgylch?

EWCH i *www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk,* rhowch eich cod post i mewn o dan 'Eich Bro' a dangosir y wybodaeth o dan y pennawdau 'Schools & Learning', 'Welsh Primary Catchment'. Fel arall ffoniwch yr Adran Dderbyn y Cyngor ar 01446 700111.

Cywion Curig /Curig Chicks

Nature trail at Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig, Barry.

GIVING parents of pre-school children an insight into Welsh language education is one of the aims of Ysgol Gymraeg St Curig's most recent projects.

Called Cywion Curig (Curig Chicks) it's an initiative to welcome potential parents into the school community, providing a playgroup facility for the toddlers while parents can chat over a coffee.

Cywion Curig, named by two Year 6 pupils Georgia Jones and Lowri Thomas, meet twice a week, on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons. It's run by St Curig school staff and parents are welcome to drop in for the entire session of just part of it.

Headteacher Siân Owen said: "Cywion Curig has been warmly welcomed by many parents. It's an opportunity to become more involved in school life and for parents to see for themselves what Welsh language education is like. Let's not forget, for non-Welsh speaking parents, entrusting their children's education to the Welsh medium sector is a big leap of faith. We appreciate that – and it pays dividends.

"I'd like to encourage anyone who has young children or who cares for young children, to come along. It's free of charge and is our way of introducing parents to bilingualism. The children have fun through playing, chanting and singing. But importantly they also hear the Welsh language spoken in a positive and happy learning environment."

Cywion Curig

RHOI cyfle i rieni plant bach gael blas o addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg yw amcan un o prosiectau diweddaraf Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig.

Wedi ei enwi yn Gywion Curig, mae'n ffordd o groesawu darpar rieni i mewn i gymuned yr ysgol, gan gynnig gweithgareddau amrywiol i'r plant a chyfle i rieni i ymlacio a sgwrsio dros baned.

Dwy ddisgybl blwyddyn 6, Georgia Jones a Lowri Thomas, wnaeth feddwl am yr enw a staff Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig sy'n rhedeg y clwb bob bore Mawrth a phrynhawn Gwener. Mae croeso i rieni alw draw am y sesiynau cyfan neu ran ohonynt.

Dywedodd y pennaeth, Siân Owen: "Mae nifer fawr o rieni wedi ymestyn croeso cynnes i Gywion Curig. Mae'n gyfle iddynt ddod yn rhan o fywyd yr ysgol ac i weld dros eu hunain beth yw addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg. Mae'n ofyn mawr i'r di-Gymraeg i anfon eu plant atom i'w haddysgu. Rydyn yn ymwybodol o hynny – ond mae'n talu ar ei ganfed.

"Hoffwn annog unrhyw un sydd â phlant bach i ddod i'n gweld. Mae'r clwb am ddim ac mae'n ffordd i ni gyflwyno dwyieithrwydd iddynt. Mae'r plant yn cael hwyl, yn chwarae a chanu. Ond yn bwysig hefyd, maent yn clywed y Gymraeg mewn awyrgylch deiniadol ac hapus."

BENEFITS OF WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

"I chose Welsh medium education to give our children the opportunity of learning two languages without realising it!" ***C Lovejoy, Llantwit Major.***

"Ysgol Dewi Sant now gives us Welshness at the heart of the community." ***J Rees, Llantwit Major.***

"Welsh medium education stimulates learning in other subjects and languages."
G Jones, Llantwit Major.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21)

Dull newydd o weithio'n arwain at adeilad parhaol fforddiadwy i ysgol sy'n tyfu'n gyflym

MAE dull gwreiddiol o ddylunio adeiladau wedi galluogi i ysgol gynradd cyfrwng Cymraeg newydd yn Y Barri oresgyn rhwystrau strwythurau dros dro a symud ymlaen i fod ar flaen y gad o ran amgylcheddau addysgu modern.

Ers dechrau'r tymor mae disgyblion Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg yn elwa ar gynllun arloesol ynghyd â'r offer dysgu technolegol diweddaraf, ac yn cael digon o le parhaol i ehangu i'w llawn botensial o ran nifer y disgyblion erbyn 2017.

Mae'r trawsnewid wedi bod yn bosib drwy fuddsoddiad o £2.7 miliwn gan raglen Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif Llywodraeth Cymru a Chyngor Bro Morgannwg.

Yn wreiddiol, roedd Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg, a agorodd ei drysau ym mis Medi 2011 er mwyn bodloni'r galw cynyddol am addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg, yn wynebu'r posibilrwydd o dyfu fesul tipyn drwy ychwanegu ystafelloedd dosbarth symudol wrth i nifer y disgyblion gynyddu flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn.

Fodd bynnag, cafodd hyn ei osgoi yn sgîl penderfyniad yr awdurdod lleol i ddefnyddio templed cynllunio ysgolion safonol a thrwy hynny leihau ffioedd proffesiynol a chostau ategol eraill.

Mae hyn yn darparu strwythur parhaol newydd ar y safle, gyda lle i'r dosbarth meithrin, saith ystafell ddosbarth a chyfleusterau cwbl fodern am ddim ond £310,000 yn fwy na chost prynu strwythurau dros dro ychwanegol, a fyddai wedi bod yn angenrheidiol.

Mae'r ysgol, sydd ar dir Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, wedi profi twf cynt na'r disgwyl o ran y galw am lefydd. Gyda 30 yn rhagor o blant wedi cychwyn y tymor hwn, roedd angen rhagor o le ar frys.

Esboniodd Jane Wade, Rheolwr Gweithrediadau'r cyngor ar gyfer Eiddo a Chyflawni: "Roedden ni'n mynd i gael ateb dros dro arall ond fe wnes i ddigwydd darllen rhywbeth am sut roedd ysgolion yn dechrau defnyddio cynlluniau templed. Gwnaeth hyn i ni edrych ar ffordd wahanol o gyflawni ac roedd posib i ni gael ateb parhaol am yr un pris mwy neu lai â'r ateb dros dro. Mae nid yn unig wedi arbed arian, ond hefyd wedi lleihau'r amser sydd ei angen ar gyfer dylunio, cynllunio a chyflwyno'r prosiect. Rydw i'n credu mai hwn yw'r cynllun cyntaf o'i fath yng Nghymru."

Cafodd y gwaith adeiladu ei hun ei droi'n brofiad dysgu i'r plant, gyda 'ffenestri' lefel isel wedi'u torri yn y byrddau o amgylch y safle adeiladu, fel eu bod yn gallu gweld beth oedd yn digwydd y tu mewn. Hefyd, cyflwynwyd y plant i Ifor Safle Saff, sef cymeriad a oedd yn hybu negeseuon allweddol am ddiogelwch safle adeiladu. Bu'r plant yn gweithio gyda'r artist cymunedol Christian Ryan hefyd, i greu ffenestri arbennig ar gyfer yr ysgol newydd.

Aeth Mrs Roberts ati i dalu teyrnged i gyfraniad ei 13 aelod o staff, sy'n cynnwys pump athro ac wyth cynorthwy-ydd dysgu. Dywedodd: "Maen nhw wedi bod yn gefnogol iawn o'r dechrau ac wedi gwneud gwaith rhagorol o dan amodau heriol. Mae'n ffantastig ein bod ni'n mynd i gael ysgol newydd sbon a phwrpasol, gyda lle i dyfu."

Setting some solid Welsh foundations in Llantwit Major

Building solid foundations for life. Photograph courtesy of Colorfoto, Photography and Marketing Specialists

OPENING Llantwit Major's very first Welsh medium school in 2011 was a positive and much-needed move for the town.

For too long, parents wanting to educate their children through the medium of Welsh were faced with sending their children out of catchment to either Cowbridge or Barry.

But parental demand and the lack of spare places in neighbouring schools was such that the Vale of Glamorgan Council invested in a brand new school.

Named Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant, it commemorates Llantwit Major's religious heritage as a focal point of Christianity for the early Welsh saints.

Phase One of the project saw the opening of the school with a nursery/reception class of 12 pupils in a demountable classroom on the site of Llantwit Major Comprehensive School.

In 2013, the demand was such that an extension was added for years 1 and 2 pupils. Next month, Phase Three will begin with foundations dug to accommodate a 210-place school and nursery for pupils of 3-11 years in a purpose built, state-of-the-art building.

The school will be constructed along the pioneering format of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg in Barry, using a standardised template school design specially created to meet educational needs in the 21st entury.

Capital funding for the project has been made available through the 21st Century Schools Programme which is 50 per cent funded by the Welsh Government. The new school will be open in September 2015 and will form the first part of the Llantwit Learning Community.

Helen Jennings, Headteacher, said,:"It's wonderful seeing everything coming together in a thriving school. This school is here because parents have wanted it. Demand for Welsh medium education has been on the rise across Wales and the Vale and I am delighted that the Council and Welsh Government have responded so positively and appropriately to that demand. The vast majority of pupils come from non welsh speaking backgrounds and it is amazing how quickly they become bilingual.

"From the foundations of our new building, we will continue to develop a strong community based school which lays down solid learning foundations for each and every one of our pupils."

Sylfeini Cymraeg cadarn yn Llanilltud Fawr

ROEDD agor ysgol gyntaf Gymraeg Llanilltud Fawr yn 2011 yn gam positif i'r dre.

I gael addysg Gymraeg cyn hynny roedd rhaid anfon plant allan o'u talgylch, naill ai i'r Bont-faen neu i'r Barri.

Ond, o ganlyniad i'r gofyn am addysg Gymraeg oddi wrth rieni a'r diffyg o lefydd gwag yn yr ysgolion Cymraeg eraill, mi wnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg fuddsoddi mewn ysgol newydd sbon.

Mae Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant wedi'i henwi i gofnodi treftadaeth hynafol Llanilltud Fawr fel canolfan gristnogol bwysig i'n seintiau cynnar.

Fel Cam 1 o'r prosiect agorwyd yr ysgol gyda dosbarth meithrin/derbyn o 12 disgybl ar dir Ysgol Gyfun Llanilltud Fawr.

Oherwydd y galw cynyddol ychwanegwyd estyniad yn 2013. Mis nesa bydd cychwyn ar drydedd rhan y cynllun, sef gosod sylfeini ar gyfer ysgol 210 lle gyda meithrinfa, ar gyfer plant 3-11 oed, mewn adeilad newydd pwrpasol a pharhaol.

Caiff yr ysgol ei hadeiladu yn ôl fformat arloesol Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg yn Y Barri, gan ddefnyddio templed o gynllun ysgol fydd yn addas ar gyfer anghenion addysgiadol yr unfed ganrif ar hugain.

Daw'r cyfalaf ar gyfer y prosiect drwy raglen ysgolion yr unfed ganrif ar hugain, yr ariennir hanner cant y cant gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Bydd yr ysgol newydd yn agor ym mis Medi 2015 i greu rhan gyntaf Cymuned Ddysgu Llanilltud Fawr.

Dywedodd y pennaeth, Helen Jennings: "Mae'n wych gweld popeth yn dod at ei gilydd mewn ysgol sy'n ffynnu. Mae'r ysgol yma gan fod rhieni wedi ei heisiau. Mae'r galw am addysg Gymraeg wedi cynyddu ar draws Cymru ac yma yn y Fro a dwi'n falch iawn fod y Cyngor a Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ymateb mor gadarnhaol i'r gofyn. Daw'r ganran helaeth o'n disgyblion o deuluoedd di-Gymraeg ac mae'n rhyfeddol pa mor gyflym y maent yn dod i fod yn ddwyieithog.

"Wrth osod sylfeili ein adeilad newydd, mi wnawn barhau i ddatblygu ysgol gymunedol gref gyda sylfeini addysgiadol eang ar gyfer pob un o'n disgyblion."

Y FRO GYMRAEG – YN FFW AC YN FFYNNU

A WELCOME FOR EVERYONE IN WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

Ysgol Iolo Morganwg pupils in the new IT suite.

An Apple (computer) a day...

FOLLOWING substantial investment, Ysgol Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge has recently completed an exciting new IT project, which transforms the way in which pupils are taught.

Around £30,000 has been spent on installing an Apple TV system into classrooms and in developing a new IT suite in the previously unutilised roof space of the school.

The building work has been cleverly designed and supervised by governor Mike Pritchett, an architect by profession with EPT Partnership in Cardiff. Work was carried out over the summer and also included remodelling of a substantial area of the ground floor to create much needed additional and flexible teaching space.

The investment in the Apple IT system, complete with i-Pads for pupils, will enable teachers to deliver lessons, across all subjects of the curriculum, using the latest technology.

The school will access Hwb Plus, the all Wales learning plaform, funded by the Welsh Government. Using Microsoft Sharepoint, this allows pupils and teachers to upload and store work securely via cloud technology.

Owain Saunders-Jones, chair of the school governors resource committee, said:"The impact of our investment in IT at Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg will be enormous. Children will become competent with IT through using it, practically, in all aspects of their schoolwork to enhance their learning. Each pupil will create his or her own webpage and will be able to communicate with the teacher via a school-based email account. The potential is truly amazing and will transform the experience of learning, equipping our pupils with excellent IT skills."

Buddsoddiad yn dwyn ffrwyth

YN dilyn buddsoddiad sylweddol, mae Ysgol Iolo Morganwg yn Y Bont-faen newydd gwblhau prosiect Technoleg Gwybodaeth bell-gyrhaeddol sy'n trawsnewid y ffordd y bydd plant yn cael eu haddysgu.

Mae oddeutu £30,000 wedi ei wario yn gosod system Teledu Apple i mewn i ddosbarthiadau a chreu ystafell Dechnoleg Gwybodaeth hollol newydd yn nenfwd yr ysgol.

Dyluniwyd a goruchwyliwyd y gwaith adeiladu gan Mike Pritchett, aelod o fwrdd llywodraethol yr ysgol sydd hefyd yn bensaer gyda Partneriaeth EPT, yng Nghaerdydd. Cwblhawyd y gwaith, oedd yn cynnwys ail-strwythuro rhan helaeth o'r brif adeilad, yn brydlon dros wyliau'r haf, gan greu dosbarthiadau dysgu ychwanegol.

Mae'r buddsoddiad yn y system Teledu Apple, ynghyd ag i-Pads i ddisgyblion, yn galluogi athrawon i gyflwyno gwersi ar draws y cwricwlwm gan ddefnyddio'r dechnoleg ddiweddaraf.

Bydd yr ysgol yn gwneud defnydd o Hwb Plws, platfform dysgu Cymru sydd wedi'i ariannu gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Bydd Microsoft Sharepoint, yn galluogi disgyblion ac athrawon i uwchlwytho a chadw gwaith yn ddiogel yn y cwmwl technoleg.

Dywedodd Owain Saunders-Jones, cadeirydd pwyllgor adnoddau y llywodraethwyr: "Bydd effaith ein buddsoddiad mewn technoleg yn Ysgol Iolo Morganwg yn enfawr. Bydd plant yn cyfarwyddo gyda thechnoleg gwybodaeth drwy ei ddefnyddio ar draws holl sbectrwm eu gwaith ysgol er mwyn ehangu eu dysgu. Bydd pob plentyn yn creu gwefan ei hun ac yn gallu cysylltu â'r athro drwy e-bost. Mae'r potensial yn anhygoel a bydd yn gweddnewid y profiad o ddysgu ac yn rhoi sgiliau technoleg gwybodaeth gwych i'n disgyblion."

POSITIVE MOVES DUE TO PARENTAL DEMAND...

YSGOL Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant in Barry is set to double in size, due to the growth in popularity for Welsh medium education seen in the Vale, especially over the last decade.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council has approved a substantial investment programme of around £3,700,000 to ensure sufficient Welsh medium school places to meet parental demand. Capital funding for the project is available through the 21st Century Schools programme, which is 50% funded by the Welsh Government.

Currently, Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant and English medium Oakfield Primary School are located on a shared site in the Gibbonsdown area of Barry.

The project will involve building a brand new school for Oakfield on the existing site of the schools. Their vacated building will then be remodelled to accommodate a two form entry school for Gwaun y Nant, increasing its pupil capacity from 210 places to 420 places. The school will grow gradually with 60 places in the reception class each year. In addition there will be a larger nursery area within the school.

The project will significantly improve the teaching and learning environments for both Gwaun y Nant and Oakfield and provide two schools that meet the educational needs of the 21st century.

Building work is due to start on the new Oakfield Primary in November to allow the school to move into its new premises in September 2015. Start and finish times for the two primary schools will be staggered to avoid traffic congestion.

Headteacher Rhydian Lloyd said: "This is an exciting time for Welsh medium education in the Vale. The growth in parental demand for Welsh education seen over the last decade has been astounding. I'm certain that the expansion of Ysgol Gwaun y Nant will have a positive impact on the Welsh language in Barry. New teaching posts will be created alongside the increased pupil intake, which has both economic and employment benefits. I'm looking forward to the challenges ahead and to welcoming even more pupils to the new, enhanced Gwaun y Nant."

Adeiladu ar dwf addysg Gymraeg

MAE Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant yn Y Barri ar fin cael ei dybli mewn maint oherwydd poblogrwydd addysg Gymraeg a welwyd yn y Fro, yn enwedig dros y degawd diwethaf.

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi cytuno buddsoddiad sylweddol o oddeutu £3,700,000 i sicrhau digon o lefydd mewn ysgolion cyfrwng Cymraeg i ateb y galw gan rieni. Daw'r arian cyfalaf o raglen ysgolion yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain, yr ariennir 50 y cant gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

Ar hyn o bryd mor Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant ac ysgol gynradd cyfrwng Saesneg Oakfield wedi'u lleoli ar safle ar y cyd yn ardal Gibbonsdown o'r Barri.

Bydd y cynllun newydd yn golygu adeiladu ysgol hollol newydd i Oakfield ar yr un safle. Bydd ei hen adeiladau yn cael eu ail-strwythuro i greu ysgol dau ddosbarth pob blwyddyn i Gwaun y Nant, gan gynyddu'r llefydd o 210 i 420. Bydd yr ysgol yn tyfu'n raddol gyda 60 o lefydd yn y meithrin pob blwyddyn.

Bydd gwaith adeiladu Oakfield yn dechrau ym mis Tachwedd i alluogi'r ysgol i symud i mewn i'r adeilad newydd ym mis Medi 2015. Bydd yr amseroedd dechrau a gorffen yn wahanol ar gyfer y ddwy ysgol i osgoi problemau trafnidiaeth.

Meddai'r pennaeth Rhydian Lloyd: "Mae'n amser cyffrous i addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg yn Y Fro. Mae'r twf a welwyd yma dros y degawd diwethaf wedi bod yn anhygoel. Rwy'n sicr y caiff ehangu Ysgol Gwaun y Nant effaith aruthrol ar yr iaith Gymraeg yn Y Barri. Byddwn angen mwy o athrawon ac yn derbyn mwy o blant, sy'n golygu swyddi newydd a buddiannau economaidd. Rwy'n disgwyl ymlaen at y sialensau sydd o'n blaenau ac yn enwedig i groesawu mwy o blant i Ysgol Gwaun y Nant ar ei newydd gwedd."

Afiaith Sant Baruc

A NEW group for former pupils of Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc was established in March 2013 by Dulyn Griffith and Gwenno Huws (former headteacher and deputy headteacher at the school.)

Both Dulyn and Gwenno were very frustrated that there were no opportuities for young people to socialise through the medium of Welsh after they left education.

And so they set up AFIAITH (Adfer Fy IAITH – Restore my Language) as a means of providing opportunities to re-engage with the Welsh language and a means of reigniting old friendships.

It is rather like a school reunion but without the uniform or the rules! To date it has attracted over 80 members and is going from strength to strength. The meetings are totally informal with the main emphasis on having a good night out! Since its inception, the group has raised almost £1,000 for charity and there are plans afoot to organise a range of activities including a weekend trip to Llangrannog.

There is no need to worry if you haven't spoken Welsh for years – everybody worries about this – you will soon feel at home and you are guaranteed a fun evening.

Furthermore, if you now have children of your own who are pupils in any of the Welsh schools in the area, imagine how much more you will be able to help them with their education if you've got more confidence to speak Welsh yourself!

All in all, a win-win situation!

Our next meeting is a skittles night on Friday, October 10 in Barry Rugby Club at 8pm. All welcome...www.facebook.com/groups/AFIAITH.

YM mis Mawrth 2013, cafodd grŵp newydd sbon ei sefydlu i gyn-ddisgyblion Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc gan Dulyn Griffith a Gwenno Huws (cyn bennaeth a dirprwy yr ysgol.)

Teimlai Dulyn a Gwenno yn rhwystredig iawn nad oedd cyfleoedd i bobl ifanc gymdeithasu yn y Gymraeg ar ôl iddynt adael yr ysgol ac roedd hyn yn ddraenen yn eu hystlys. Felly sefydlwyd AFIAITH sef A(dfer) F(y) IAITH fel modd o greu cyfle i ail gyfarfod â hen ffrindiau ac ailgydio yn y Gymraeg.

Mae'n debyg i aduniad ysgol – ond heb wisg ysgol a heb reolau! Mae'r syniad yn mynd o nerth i nerth ac erbyn hyn mae dros 80 o gynddisgyblion wedi ymuno gyda'r grŵp.

Mae'r nosweithiau yn hollol anffurfiol gyda'r pwyslais ar fwynhau! Ers ei sefydlu, mae'r grŵp wedi codi bron i £1,000 tuag at elusennau ac mae cynlluniau ar droed i drefnu amrywiaeth o weithgareddau gan gynnwys trip penwythnos i Wersyll Llangrannog. Does dim angen poeni os nad ydych wedi siarad Cymraeg ers dyddiau ysgol (mae pawb yn poeni am hyn) – cewch eich synnu pa mor gyflym y daw'r cwbl yn ôl!

Mae wir yn brofiad hyfryd i ddal i fyny gyda phawb mewn awyrgylch anffurfiol. Ac os oes gennych blant eich hunain erbyn hyn sydd yn mynd i un o ysgolion Cymraeg yr ardal, byddwch yn medru eu helpu nhw lawer yn well ar ôl ichi ymarfer ychydig ar y Gymraeg eich hunan!

Bydd y cyfarfod nesaf sef NOSON SGITLS ar Hydref 10fed am 8pm yng Nghlwb Rygbi'r Barri – croeso i bawb. www.facebook.com/groups/AFIAITH.

"I was concerned that I would be the only parent that didn't speak Welsh and that my son's pace of learning would be behind his English speaking peers. This has not been the case and at the age of 6 he reads well in both languages." ***S Willis, Llantwit Major***

"I had concerns regarding my daughter's ability to learn the terminology required in science and maths, but these have been dispelled, as she is able to explain to me what words mean and it's amazing!"
E Griffiths, Llantwit Major

"Welsh medium education is all about supporting and building strong confident individuals. I love listening to my children speaking Welsh and have picked up a few words myself."
Parent of St Curig, Barry

"My husband and I are English and as a linguist I was keen for my children to develop an ear for languages. It's wonderful to hear them speak Welsh fluently – they've pick it up so easily and quickly."
Francine Ruckledge, Cowbridge

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Y FRO GYMRAEG – YN FFW AC YN FFYNNU

A WELCOME FOR EVERYONE IN WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

MEET THE HEADTEACHERS!

RHIAN ANDREW joined Ysgol Sant Baruc, Barry as head in September 2010. She is married with a two-year-old child and another on the way in December!

Rhian enjoys walking and spending time with her family. The school is located on St Paul's Avenue, Barry and has 222 pupils.

What three words/phrases best describe your school?

Welcoming, inclusive, dedicated.

What's great about your school?

The school has a wonderful ethos. We are a very happy school where staff, pupils and parents have a very good relationship.

What are you most proud of?

The pupils' ability to speak an excellent standard of Welsh, even though they are from English speaking homes. The staff give so much to their pupils to enable them bilingual.

What advice would you give to parents considering Welsh education for their children?

Go for it! Being able to speak two languages fluently is a gift and a huge advantage for future employment. Learning a language as a child is far easier than learning a language as an adult.

"I won't be able to help my child with homework" is a common barrier to Welsh medium education for non-Welsh speaking parents. How do you answer that?

The majority of our pupils/families are in this situation. Most homework tasks are sent home with an English explanation and pupils are encouraged to complete task independently as the work is a consolidation of the skills taught in class. Parental support and encouragement to complete tasks is what is important.

What's your favourite Welsh word?

Bendigedig (brilliant).

RHYDIAN LLOYD took over the headship of Ysgol Gwaun y Nant in 2010. He is married with two children and enjoys cycling and watching rugby.

There are currently 205 pupils attending the school in the Gibbonsdown area of Barry.

What three words/phrases best describe your school?

Caring, friendly, inclusive.

What are you most proud of?

Proud – seeing our pupils arrive on the first day of school without a word of Welsh and leaving us as confident, proud and fluent Welsh speakers.

What advice would you give to parents considering Welsh education for their children?

Speak to parents who have already taken that decision and make an appointment visit a Welsh medium school to see for yourself.

"I won't be able to help my child with homework" is a common barrier to Welsh medium education for non-Welsh speaking parents. How do you answer that?

Almost all of our children come from English speaking homes. The school is fully aware of these concerns and so make every effort to ensure that parents are able to assist their children with homework tasks. We offer support and even Welsh lessons.

What's your favourite Welsh word?

Popty-Ping (microwave).

HELEN JENNINGS was born in Barry to Welsh speaking parents and was one of many pupils who had to travel to Pontypridd for receive her secondary education through the medium of Welsh.

She was asked to become acting headteacher of Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant in April 2011 whilst also headteacher at another school before becoming full time head at Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant in April 2014. She is married with two grown up sons.

What three words best describe your school?

Inclusive, nurturing and exciting.

What are you most proud of?

Establishing a successful Welsh medium primary school in Llantwit Major that provides parents with the choice of having their children educated through the medium of Welsh within their own community.

In that time we have also seen pupils who are predominantly from non Welsh speaking homes becoming fluent in both languages.

What advice would you give to parents considering Welsh education for their children?

Most of the parents choosing to have their child educated through the medium of Welsh want their children to be able to do something that they cannot. Learning to speak Welsh is much easier when you are a child and you are providing your child with additional skills and oportunities.

"I won't be able to help my child with homework" is a common barrier to Welsh medium education for non-Welsh speaking parents. How do you answer that?

We work with parents to ensure that they feel a part of their children's education. We hold additional parents' evenings where literacy and numeracy strategies are shared and discussed.

We provide bilingual pamphlets on developing reading skills and hold weekly parents' sessions 'Amser Stori' (Time for a Story) and reading workshops using story sacks. Our literacy and numeracy homework challenges aim to make learning fun and allows everyone to be involved.

What's your favourite Welsh word?

Buddugoliaethus (victorious).

DR DYLAN JONES is the head of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg in Barry and has been in post since Day One. He is married with two grown up children. The school now has 834 pupils.

What three words best describe your school?

Inclusive. Busy. Ambitious.

What's great about your school?

The way we aspire to support everybody on their way to fulfilling their potential. This means giving all pupils the best that we can offer.

What are you most proud of?

The way the school has gone from nothing to a nationally respected establishment in such a short time. We weren't in existence at the turn of the century, but now everybody knows about Bro Morgannwg!

What advice would you give to parents considering Welsh education for their children?

Do it! You won't regret it!

What's your favourite Welsh word?

Adra (home).

MENNA ROBERT, headteacher at Ysgol Nant Talwg, was brought up in Mold, Flintshire and she was a pupil at Ysgol Glanrafon and Ysgol Maes Garmon. While in school her love of performing was quite evident and at a young age she would be a keen competitor in Eisteddfodau.

She went to Bangor University to study Welsh and Drama. While in college she became lead vocalist with a pop band and she also did a lot of radio and television work.

At one point she presented a gardening programme on S4C! She even presented the Royal Welsh Show with Ray Gravelle in 1985.

Eventually, she settled down to live in Cardiff and started her teaching career in the Vale of Glamorgan.

By now she has taught generations of Barry children and she is very proud to have been part of the success story of Welsh education in the town.

Trivia

SHE has two grown up sons who are her 'greatest achievement'.

Her favourite films are *The Shawshank Redemption* and *The Green Mile*.

She was a Bay City Roller fan in her teens but now enjoys the more sophisticated sound of Coldplay.

She enjoys travelling, socialising and reading. Her Friday night tipple is a large G&T. Her perfect dance partner would be Liam Neeson. Top of her bucket list is Glastonbury and seeing the Northen Lights.

She intends to have a gap year when she is 70. The best piece of advice she received was "Let go and let God." Three words to describe her: generous, gregarious, loyal.

Favourite Quote

"JUST think how many people on the Titanic had refused the dessert trolley?!"

SIAN OWEN joined Ysgol Sant Curig, Barry as head in September 2006. She has three children who are pursuing careeres in Medicine, Media and Mechanical Engineering.

Sian enjoys walking, cookery and spending time with her family. The school is located on College Road, Barry and has 420 pupils.

What three words/phrases best describe your school?

Happy/friendly, caring, high achieving.

What's great about your school?

Its ethos. Although it's a big town school, there is a small village school atmosphere where we all know each other well and look after each other very well.

What are you most proud of?

The staff who give so much to their pupils so that there is high achievement for all.

What advice would you give to parents considering Welsh education for their children?

We realise that it's a huge leap of faith for parents to hand over their children to us to be educated through the medium of a language that they do not understand, but they are giving their children the biggest gift of all – bilingualism – and a firm platform on which to build a bright future.

"I won't be able to help my child with homework" is a common barrier to Welsh medium education for non-Welsh speaking parents. How do you answer that?

Over 90% of our children come from non-Welsh speaking homes. We have homework clubs and also offer Welsh classess for parents run by Cardiff University.

There is an open door policy where parents can come and discuss any aspect of their child's learning. Most homework tasks are sent home with an English explanation.

What's your favourite Welsh word?

Gin a Thonic(!).... Ysbrydoledig (inspiring).

IONA EDWARDS joined Ysgol Pen-y-Garth as a deputy headteacher in 1999. In January 2003 she became acting headteacher and was appointed headteacher in September 2004.

She is married with two boys aged 18 and 12. Iona is passionate about all kinds of music, sings in a choir and enjoys reading and eating out.

The school is located on Redlands Road and has 390 pupils on its books.

What three words/phrases best describe your school?

Happy, caring, passionate about learning

What's great about your school?

We value each child as an individual and make sure that each one experiences success.

What are you most proud of?

Our pupils – past and present especially when we hear about their wonderful successes.

What advice would you give to parents considering Welsh education for their children?

Join Welsh mother and toddler groups as early as possible and join in the fun of learning Welsh with your child.

"I won't be able to help my child with homework" is a common barrier to Welsh medium education for non-Welsh speaking parents. How do you answer that?

That used to be true 20 years ago, but we've learnt a lot since then and we've finally got it right. Homework should be an opportunity to become independent learners and should be based on the learning experienced in school.

There is also an unbelievable amount of support available on child-friendly websites, because homework after all should be set for children and not parents! From nearly 30 years experience, it's the parents' encouragement, the support and the opportunities they give children, that matters.

What's your favourite Welsh word?

Cwtsh.

RHIAN WILLIAMS joined Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, Cowbridge as head in January this year. She is married with two children aged 11 and 6.

Rhian enjoys spending time with her family and baking. The school is located on Broadway and has 235 pupils on its books.

What three words best describe your school?

Growing, glowing and enabling.

What are you most proud of?

Being a former pupil, to come back as headteacher is a privilege and honour. I have many fond memories of school life at Ysgol Iolo and I'm excited that I now have an opportunity to work as part of a team to ensure that all children who pass through the doors have a happy time here and achieve to their full potential.

"I won't be able to help my child with homework" is a common barrier to Welsh medium education for non-Welsh speaking parents. How do you answer that?

Schools will ensure that parents are able to support their children with their work to the best of their ability and will provide guidance and support as their children progress through Welsh medium education.

All homework will come home with bilingual instructions so that parents understand what is being asked of their child.

They can support through discussion and planning of the task and ask their child to talk them through the work upon completion.

Parents will be able to listen to their children reading, encouraging the child to explain what is happening in the book, talk about the characters and what might happen next.

This is an ideal opportunity for parents to start learning Welsh with their children!

What's your favourite Welsh word?

Dathlu (celebrate) – we celebrate all achievements at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.

Y FRO GYMRAEG – YN FFW AC YN FFYNNU

A WELCOME FOR EVERYONE IN WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

Ysgol Pen-y-Garth gets a gold star for PE

YSGOL Pen-y-Garth has finished top of the class after their work in PE received a glowing report.

Sport Wales and the Association for Physical Education (afPE) are championing schools which recognise the importance of PE.

ActiveMark Cymru endorses schools that are committed to developing high quality physical education and school sport and for promoting the benefits of physical activity.

Chair of Sport Wales, Professor Laura McAllister, said: "We believe that schools play an essential role in building a Wales in which children are hooked on sport for life. We know the importance of being active to the future life chances of a young person, and that schools are central to providing every child with the physical skills and confidence to take part and enjoy."

Mr Owain Jones, the PE Co-ordinator at Ysgol Pen-y-Garth said: "We've worked hard this year on increasing pupil participation in sports by making strong links with outside agencies such as the Urdd and Dragon Sports, ensuring that PE is taught through a variety of fun activities to a high standard and identifying key areas to improve. The active mark is a celebration for all of our hard work here at Ysgol Pen-y-Garth."

Mrs Iona Edwards, headteacher, added: "There is strong evidence that children who receive high quality physical education within curriculum time, build a firm basis for future participation and achievement – and also do better in the rest of their schooling. At Pen-y-Garth we are very fortunate to have excellent sports facilities and members of staff who willingly volunteer to provide a variety of sporting experiences during and after school for our pupils."

Seren aur i Ysgol Pen-y-Garth

LLWYDDODD Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth ym Mhenarth i orffen ar frig y dosbarth wrth i'w gwaith addysg gorfforol dderbyn adroddiad campus.

Chwaraeon Cymru a'r Gymdeithas ar gyfer Addysg Gorfforol (afPE) sydd wrth gefn y cynllun arbennig.

Mae MarcActif Cymru yn rhoi sêl ei fendith i ysgolion sy'n ymrwymedig i gyrrhaeddiad uchel mewn addysg gorfforol a chwaraeon o fewn ysgolion ac am hybu manteision addysg gorfforol.

Dyweddodd Cadeirydd Chwaraeon Cymru, Yr Athro Laura McAllister: "Credwn fod gan ysgolion rôl hanfodol i chwarae i greu Cymru sy'n llawn o blant fydd yn dwli ar chwaraeon am oes. Rydym yn gwybod pa mor bwysig yw bod yn heini i wella cyfleoedd bywyd person ifanc, a bod gan ysgolion ran ganolog i ddysgu sgiliau corfforol i bob plentyn, ynghyd â magu'r hyder ynddynt i gymryd rhan ac i fwynhau."

Ychwanegodd Owain Jones, cydlynydd addysg gorfforol Ysgol Pen-y-Garth: "Rydyn wedi gweithio'n galed eleni ar gynyddu'r nifer o blant sy'n cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon drwy greu cysylltiadau cryf gydag asianteithau allanol fel yr Urdd a Dragon Sports. Rydyn yn sicrhau fod addysg gorfforol yn cael ei ddysgu i safonau uchel drwy amryw o weithgareddau sy'n llawn hwyl, gan edrych am lefydd i wella. Mae derbyn y MarcActif yn dyst i'r gwaith caled sy'n digwydd yma yn Ysgol Pen-y-Garth."

Meddai'r pennaeth Iona Edwards: "Mae yna brawf cryf fod plant sy'n derbyn addysg gorfforol o'r ansawdd orau o fewn amser cwrricwlwm yn gosod sylfaen dda i ddyfodol ble mae addysg gorfforol yn parhau i chwarae rôl bwysig yn eu bywydau – yn ogystal maent hefyd yn gwneud yn well gyda gweddill eu addysg. Rydyn yn ffodus i gael cyfleusterau chwaraeon gwych yma ym Mhen-y-Garth, ynghyd ag athrawon sy'n barod i ddarparu ystod eang o brofiadau chwaraeon i'n disgyblion, yn ystod ac ar ôl oriau ysgol."

Seren (aged 11) gives her perspective...

SEREN prepared this for a new parents' open evening at Ysgol Pen-y-Garth.

I WAS exposed to the Welsh language for the first time as a baby, when I attended Ti a Fi (parent and baby/toddler group) with my Mum, Dad and brother.

We lived in Caerphilly and the Welsh medium nurseries and schools had a very good reputation. At the age of 3, I moved to Sully.

My education continued in Welsh and I attended Cylch Meithrin Bethel in the mornings and Ysgol Pen-y-Garth in the afternoons.

My parents were not brought up in Welsh-speaking families and went to English schools. Myself, my brothers and sister were all born in Wales and my parents wanted to give us all the opportunity to be brought up bilingually for our future and for the future of our Welsh heritage.

Initially, they were worried and had concerns about possible language barriers.

They had lots of reassurance from friends, other parents and teachers.

School homework, reading and English skills were their biggest fears.

I am pleased to say, these have not caused me a problem to date.

The school is very approachable and if there are any concerns there is always someone to speak to who can help.

If I was given Welsh homework and needed assistance I would often ask my parents in English and I would translate my work into Welsh.

If anything, I've found it beneficial not having Welsh speaking parents as my work has always been my own.

Any mistakes, I have learnt from and been able to correct where necessary. English is taught when you go to juniors, myself and my parents are comfortable with my progress.

Even though we do not speak Welsh at home with our parents, we are encouraged to speak and play in Welsh.

We very often watch S4C and my younger siblings enjoy watching Cyw.

They are learning so much from these programmes, like I did! Learning Welsh has given me the opportunity to take part in the Urdd Eisteddfod. I enjoy singing and I am a member of a Welsh choir outside of school.

I am so pleased that my parents decided to send me to Welsh school and I hope many more English-speaking families decide to do the same.

My eldest brother is in Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and he feels that being brought up bilingually is making it easier to learn other languages such as French and Spanish.

I am looking forward to learning other languages too!

I am so proud to be Welsh and being able to speak the language is awesome.

Seren Russell, aged 11.

THE RUSSELL FAMILY.

Useful contacts/Manylion Cyswllt

Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant, Barry, 01446 421723; www.ysgolgwaunynant.co.uk; @gwaunynant.

Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg, Barry, 01446 709585, @nanttalwg.

Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc, Barry, 01446 735595; www.ysgolsantbaruc.co.uk; @ysgolsantbaruc.

Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig, Barry, 01446 744222; www.ysgolgymraegsantcurig.com ; @ygsantcurig1.

Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth, Penarth, 029 2070 0262; www.ysgolpenygarth.ik.org; @ysgolpenygarth.

Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, Cowbridge; 01446 772358; www.ysgoliolomorganwg.co.uk; @ysgoliolo.

Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant, Llantwit Major, 01446 792 368; www.ysgolgymraegdewisant.co.uk.

Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, Barry; 01446 450280; www.bromorgannwg.org.uk; @YGBroMorgannwg.

Mudiad Meithrin Pre-school Education (Rhian Thomas); 07792 959868; www.meithrin.co.uk; MudiadMeithrin.

Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg, 029 2068 9888; www.mentercaerdydd.org/en/page/the-vale; @MIBroMorgannwg.

Welsh for Adults Centre, 029 2087 4710; www.cardiff.ac.uk/learnwelsh; @LearningWelsh.

Urdd Gobaith Cymru (Caerdydd a'r Fro); 029 2063 5684; www.urdd.org; @UrddCaerdyddFro.

Lucy Owen's experience of Welsh medium education

WHY did you choose Welsh medium education for your son?

I believe Welsh medium education is the best way of cementing the Welsh language in the minds of children and giving them a firm grounding in it.

I also think there is something a little bit special about Welsh medium schools.

I think the language gives a special bond, and there's something about the education at Gabriel's school that seems to wrap around pupils and envelop them with a genuine Welsh warmth and closeness.

It's a small school and it feels like a family there.

Why do you think being bilingual is important?

I am hugely proud of being Welsh, of our heritage and culture and the language is a big part of that.

Being able to give the gift of the language to my son is a joy.

There are plenty of reports about the declining number of Welsh speakers, and I feel it's important to do what we can to ensure that it stays alive and part of our lives.

Passing it on to new generations will help that. Also, on a practical level, it can be a huge help in the work place and a real asset if Gabriel wants to pursue a career in Wales. Some research shows being bilingual can help you learn other languages too. So it's all good!

How did you personally find learning Welsh?

I've been a Welsh learner for more than a decade, and I'd love to say I've cracked it – but I haven't!

It is a challenge, and to get there you need to devote continued time and effort.

But the struggle I've had trying to get to grips with it later in life made me even more certain I wanted Gabriel to go through bilingual education.

QUOTES...

"As a non-Welsh speaker, I had initially worried that I could not support my children in their education. I can now say that I am involved with every aspect of their education and feel thankful to the school for this." ***Parent of St Curig, Barry***

"I'm so pleased we chose Welsh medium education for our four children – it's fantasic. We're really proud of how easily they have become bilingual and we love hearing them speak Welsh together at home. We are Welsh and proud of our heritage and culture. We hope by introducing the language into our family now, it will go on for generations."

Rhian Russell, Penarth

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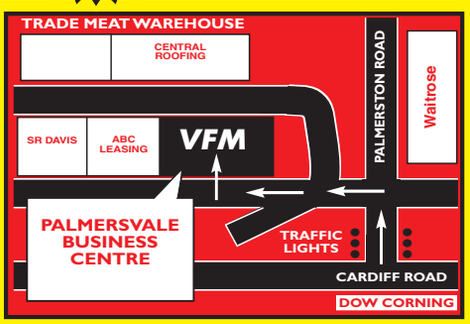

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (*in certain circumstances*)protect a writer's identity, if requested.

Rest in peace Rhoose library?

FOR those who have not had the standard response letter from Leader of the Vale Council, Coun Neil Moore, on the plan to turn Rhoose Library over to volunteers, here is the executive summary.

1) The council needs to save money.

2) Closing a library makes the council look really bad. The council wants to be fair.

So the council have decided to throw Rhoose Library under the bus.

Not closing it straight away, just getting rid of the librarians and then waiting for the crunch.

This is what Coun Moore means by keeping a library "open" as a community library. One without librarians.

3) Don't bother Coun Moore with awkward questions, such as: "IfCowbridge has fewer people, a full-time library, more staff and the machines that go beep, why can the council only save money by axing Rhoose?"

4) There will be a consultation, which will be ignored. As the council is now making up policy as they go along, they have not yet decided when the consultation will happen.

5) Any communication before the consultation is going in the round filing basket. Did you not read point 3?

6) A community library can be established at any location. Are you paying attention now, residents of Cowbridge, Dinas Powys, Llantwit and Penarth?

7) There is no plan for failure, because Coun Moore can see no reason why the scheme won't work. Do not bother writing to point out the flaw in this reasoning (see 3 and 5).

9) In the considered opinion of Coun Moore, the primary function of a library is not educational, and closing a library will not have a significant negative impact on children's education.

All the books on how to do stuff, or what stuff happened when, or where stuff is or why stuff happens are not educational!

The reading schemes and story sessions and computer classes: they are not educational.

But if, by some freak combination of unforeseen events the inevitable happens and the library needs to close ... look, a classroom for Rhoose School. That would be educational.

Hurrah for the council!

Andrew Bailey,
Rhoose.

***Coun Stuart Egan, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Library Services**, responds:*

"This is a very challenging time for the library service in the Vale. A meaningful consultation on the implementation of the library strategy will take place this autumn.

"We want to hear from as many library users as possible during the consultation and all of the responses we receive will be considered."

Post Office anger

I NOTE that MP Alun Cairns is angry at the prospect of the closure of the post office at Lloyds Pharmacy in Highlight Park, Barry.

Has he considered that his Tory Government's privatisation mania and sell-off to the highest bidder of our national assets like the Royal Mail, supported by their partners the LibDems, might have something to do with the loss of our local community services?

As he has invariably voted for the divisive policies of the UK Government, I for one, no longer invest any credence in his words or his expressed anger.

Marc Delaney,
Barry.

Music festival comes of age in Cowbridge

THERE was a buzz of excitement surrounding Cowbridge Music Festival this year and the feeling that after five years it had really come of age.

It ended last Saturday as it had begun, with exquisite playing by a group of fine musicians. Septura, a septet of Britain's leading brass players, made the most of the excellent acoustics of Holy Cross Church, their transcriptions of Baroque and Romantic music delighting a large audience.

Musicians from all over Europe, from Iceland to Bulgaria, had made this the most successful festival to date. Among them were a number of Welsh musicians, including pianist Llŷr Williams, tenor Elgan Llŷr Thomas and soprano Menna Cazel Davies, whose performances were truly memorable.

From the excellent London-based swing band, King Candy and the Sugar Push, to the internationally renowned

KING CANDY.

Chiaroscuro String Quartet, the festival broadened its appeal with a rich variety of music.

The Bulgarian musicians, Tri I Dve, well known in Cowbridge, were a huge hit with the schools, their outreach concerts and workshops reaching 1,200 children in Cowbridge, Barry and Llantwit Major.

The organisers are greatly appreciative of the audiences and sponsors who made this year's festival such a success.

Andrew Elliott

LIGHTNING STRIKES MORE THAN TWICE!

LAST Thursday night, September 18, Barry was assailed by a barrage of thunder and lightning.

It went on for some time and GEM readers were able to capture some of the spectacular moments as the electricity flashed across the sky.

Our thanks to Holly Ruthven, Jac Osborne and Robert White for their vivid photographs.

If you have captured a special image, The GEM would like to hear from you. Please email *gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk* attaching the image and including a caption.

ABOVE PHOTOGRAPH by HOLLY RUTHVEN

ABOVE PHOTOGRAPH by JAC OSBORNE.

ABOVE PHOTOGRAPH by ROBERT WHITE.

WORLD WAR ONE IS REMEMBERED, IN FLOWERS

THE start of the First World War was commemorated in flowers by members of the local community in St Peter's Church, Rhoose and St Curig's Church, Porthkerry.

Beautiful displays and floral arrangements came from the WI, Darby and Joan, the Mothers' Union and Rhws Primary School among others.

The personal stories of church members' grandfathers who served in the armed forces were particularly moving, especially our very own 'War Horse', who served in the cavalry. The most exciting moment of the week was the visit of children from Rhws School to St Peter's, who were fascinated by the artifacts and stories. Their artwork was a highlight for everyone who visited the church. MP

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WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO REPLACE FASCIAS AND SOFFITS?

Once fitted, PVC-U roofline products such as fascia boards and soffits need no maintenance, giving them a huge advantage over timber.

At Securahome, a costly mistake we see homeowners make is to leave it too late to install PVC fascias and soffits. If your timber roofline is basically in good shape, you can save money by opting for an over cap. This involves fitting a 9mm fascia board on top of the original timbers.

Once the PVC is overlays the wood, the timbers are shielded from the elements. As the board is only over capped on the front and bottom any damp can still dry out in through the top and back.

However, if you've left it a little longer and the timbers are rotten, then the only option is a full replacement. This involves removing all of the old fascia boards and soffits and replacing them with PVC-U ones that are usually 16-25mm thick.
Replacement is also likely to mean taking off the bottom few layers of tiles or slates to fit the boards, as the fascias butt the roof under the eaves.

As you can imagine, replacement is more time consuming and as a consequence, the costs of labour and materials increase. The advantage of a full installation is that it is thorough. The simple act of lifting the tiles, for example, can help uncover rotten batons or roofing felt.

Before carrying out any installation, a Securahome's estimator will carry out a full inspection of existing timbers to assess the best option to offer lasting value for you and your home.
As Kestrel Registered Installers, at Securahome we can offer extended guarantees of up to 35 years on roofline products.

Cowbridge Comprehensive School honours its sporting stars at presentation evening

Nicole Cooke (far left) and Bethan Sloan (in red) with school pupils.

See next week's GEM for a full report from the presentation evening

THERE were two star guests invited to Cowbridge Comprehensive School's sports presentation evening.

Nicole Cooke, whose cycling achievements are too numerous to list – an Olympic gold medal in Beijing 2008 in the road race being just one – was joined by Welsh international swimmer Bethan Sloan, who competed in this year's Commonwalth Games in Glasgow.

Bethan, indeed, is a former Cowbridge Comprehensive pupil, while Nicole attended the school's local sporting rivals, Brynteg Comprehensive in Bridgend.

Bowlers enjoy finals

DURING the beginning of September Rhoose Bowling Club concluded its bowling season with the club competitions finals and the last of their club competitions.

After a full day of bowling the following results were achieved. Sue Dance beat Jo Hopkins by 14 shots to 5 in the Ladies 2 bowl singles. Anthony Parsons beat Paul Williams by 15 shots to 8.

Lyn Willmot and Colin Ashdown lost to Hugh Jupp and Geoff Lages in the Men's Pairs by 11 shots to 25.

Anita Shears and Rachel Green beat Dot Gardner and Jo Hopkins in the Ladies' Pairs by 27 shots to 20.

Sue Dance and Terry Martin beat Rachel Green and Phil Jacobs by 26 shots to 9 in the Mixed Pairs.

Men's 4 bowl Singles - Anthony Parsons beat Terry Martin by 21 shots to 10. Ladies 4 bowl Singles - Sue Dance beat Rita Craig by 25 shots to 21.

On Sunday, September 21, the club held its triples competition and 21 members took part. After four hours of bowling the final was contested by Ron Craig, Sheila Wood and Paul Williams and Anita Shears, Chas Dance and Mike White. Paul's team was completely outclassed by Mike White's, who won by 11 shots to 1.

All these competitions were run competently by the club's competition secretary, Anthony Lages.

JH

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Tel: 0333 443 2685 or 0161 212 7381 for details

MILWOOD'S GIFT TO BOWLING CHARITY

On Sunday, September 14, Millwood Bowls Club held a very successful charity day. Mr Jim Munkley was presented with a cheque for £1,050 for his charity Paraplegic & Tetraplegic Bowlers. In the photo from left to right are June Davis (ladies' captain) Mr and Mrs Munkley, and Godfrey Stone (men's captain).

JM

COWBRIDGE DARTS LEAGUE ROUND-UP

ON Tuesday, September 16, Llanharry Working Men's Club defeated the Old Post Ladies 8-1.

In this match two players from Llanharry, Victor John and Lee Davies, hit a 180. Paul Butcher (Edmondes B) also hit a 180 that evening while helping the Edmondes B defeat the Hare and Hounds 7-2.

In the other two matches the Highwayman Inn beat the Edmondes A 5-4 and the Edmondes C beat the Farmer's Arms 6-3. In this match Noyles Burt (Edmondes C) hit a 130 3-dart-out, finishing on the bull.

Present league standings, after two matches, are: Llanharry (15 points), Edmondes B (13), Highwayman Inn (10), Edmondes C (9), Farmer's Arms (7) Hare and Hounds and Edmondes A (6) and Old Post Ladies (4).

Next week, Tuesday September 30, there is a full programme of league matches. Edmondes A hosts the Edmondes B, the Old Post Ladies hosts the Edmondes C, the Highwayman Inn hosts Llanharry and the Farmer's Arms hosts the Hare and Hounds.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Bridge results

RESULTS for Cowbridge and District (Llanbleddian) bridge club, September 2:

1st Brenda Grove and Pam Higgs 59.09%, 2nd Marian Arnold and Shena Serjeant 54.42%, 3rd Pat and Brian Swain 54.58%.

September 9: 1st Sylvia Bryant and Dennis Smith 67.86%, 2nd Brenda Grove and Pam Higgs 63.10%, 3rd Anne Hughes and Teri Pollard 56.75%.

September 16: 1st Rita Williams and Marian East 69%, 2nd Judith Nunn and Ann Miller 60.50%, 3rd Pauline Land and Hugh Williams 57.50%.

ME

Rhoose FC exit the Welsh Cup

RHOOSE FC travelled to Port Talbot on Saturday in the Welsh Cup second qualifying round and surrendered their previously unbeaten run, losing to South Wales Amateur League side Trefelin 3-2.

Things didn't bode well as major motorway hold ups delayed the kick-off and meant that the away side needed to alter their intended starting line up.

The home side took the lead early on and soon went two up with the Vale side seemingy losing their grip on the match. However, Rhoose fought back gamely in the second half and were getting the better of Trefelin. The pressure paid off when Rhoose won a penalty, confidently converted by Drew Fahiya.

Rhoose pressed on and were unlucky not to be rewarded further following excellent approach work from Jemel Easter and Gianluca Palladino.

However, Trefelin put the game beyond Rhoose's reach went they went further ahead 10 minutes from time when a defensive lapse led to an own goal. Rhoose got a consolation goal on the stroke of full time, but by then it was all over for the Vale side in this season's Welsh Cup campaign.

The Vale side hope to get back to winning ways this Saturday when they entertain Pontypridd Town in the Welsh League at Jenner Park – kick off 2:30pm.

AP

Sully Sports beat Saracens

AFTER a tough couple of weeks for both Sully Sports RFC teams, the 1st XV welcomed Cardiff Saracens.

The weather was kind and stayed dry for the third week running, which meant all teams could look forward to some running rugby.

The crowd were not let down, both sides putting their markers down early, and some ferocious tackling ensured a high tempo game followed, neither side giving an inch and trying different waves of attack.

The home side took early advantage as runs from man of the match Jon Blake and Jody Velda ensured Sully Sports kept the edge and maintained the advantage over this well drilled Saracens side.

Saracens took control at the break down and turned over some crucial ball and kept up their attack, ensuring Sports had to work hard to defend their line.

But some inspirational plays ensured they turned this around and hard work at scrumage saw them stay on top and come away with the win.

Tries from Barry Phillips, Rhys Manford, Matt Phillips and Jon Blake, with conversions from Jake Williams, ensured the team maintained home advantage and ran out winners 33-21.

Squad: Dan Stillman, Adam Wheeler, Jody Velda, Jamie Griffiths, Gareth Foxall, Alex Szuchnik, Mike Angove, Barry Phillips, John Thomas, Ben Such, Jon Blake (c), Antony Williams, Rhys Manford, Dai Harris, Dave Stillman, Dave Weston, Damion Huggins, Matt Phillips, Jake Williams.

GI

Skittles league

DIVISION 1:

Bunker Boys (K.Jeynes 31) 250, 49'ers (G.Yarr 33) 284; Ex-Servicemen (P.Bishop 29) 257, Blue Monkey (J.Stokes 27) 258; Geest (S.Galsworthy 28) 267, Barry Park 'B' (R.Freeman 29) 273; Park Rangers (S.Dite 27) 255, Colcot Boys (J.James, J.Dancey 27) 251; The Hairy Lemons (R.Keene 28) 270, Park Lads (I.Mason 28) 193; The Merrymen(S.Tobin 33) 314, Park Rangers (C.Jones 30) 314.

Division 2:

Abercrete (S.Miller 28) 278, Barry Social (D.Burrows 30) 292; Bp Breakaways (A.Ccoombes, D.Bowen 26) 253, Willie Wombles (P.Pettett 28) 246; Buffs Exiles (T.Griffith 31) 281, Witchill Poachers (D.Adams, R.Connell 26) 263; Road Runners (S.Hill, L.Bennett 26) 236, Exiles (D.Norris, G.Michell 26) 266; Tynny Fliers (M.Kirke 33) 300, Posties (R.Usher, S.Nash 28) 284; Witchill Wizards (D.Casado 36) 321, The Royalists (G.Davies 36) 33.

Division 3:

Billy Bluebirds (D.Watkins 27) 267, The Alternatives (P.Roderick 28) 258; Castke Boys (M.Burston, T.McCornack 25) 237, 'H' Bells (K.Smith 26) 254; Commanchies '2'(D.Simmons,P.Ryles 29) 278, British Rail (T.Hill, K.Brown 28) 260; The Rejects (P.Edgar 30) 304, Billy Whizz (M.Cutis 33) 304.

HR

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

(PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) (NO 5) ORDER 2014

1. Notice is given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under sections1, 2, 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53 and 124 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and of all other enabling powers proposes to make an Order, the general effect of which is to amend the parking places at the locations specified in the Schedule below.

2. Full details of the proposals, may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours and any objections you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Director of Visible Services & Housing (Ref.IF470) in writing by 17th October 2014 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.

3. Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed Order open to public inspection.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:

Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE 1

Proposed No Waiting At Any Time

Heol St. Cattwg, Pendoylan

On the north side of the road, from a point approximately 14 metres east of its junction with Pendoylan Road, in a south westerly and north westerly direction for a distance of approximately 28 metres.

On the south side of the road, from a point approximately 14 metres east of its junction with Pendoylan Road, in a south westerly direction for a distance of approximately 29 metres.

Dated this 25th day of September 2014

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2014

GORCHYMYN (GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIO) (RHIF 5) (GWAHARDD MANNAU AROS, LLWYTHO A PHARCIO A CHYFYNGU AR FANNAU AROS LLWYTHO A PHARCIO)

1. Hysbysir trwy hyn y bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan adrannau 1, 2, 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53 a 124, a Rhan IV Atodlen 9 Deddf Rheoli Traffig y Ffyrdd 1984 a Rhan 6 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004, a phob pŵer galluogi arall, yn gwneud Gorchymyn. Diben cyffredinol y Gorchymyn hwnnw fydd newid y mannau parcio yn y lleoliadau sydd wedi'u nodi yn yr Atodlen isod.

2. Cewch weld y cynigion llawn drwy fynd i'r cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Os oes gennych unrhyw wrthwynebiad i'r cynnig, dylech anfon llythyr at Gyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai (Cyf. IF470) erbyn 17 Hydref 2014 gan nodi'ch rhesymau dros ei wrthwynebu.

3. Dylai'r sawl sy'n gwrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn a gynigiwyd gofio bod dyletswydd gyfreithiol ar y cyngor hwn, o dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Hawl i Wybodaeth) 1985, i sicrhau bod pob ymateb a gaiff i'r gorchymyn dan sylw ar gael i'r cyhoedd ei astudio.

Bydd y Gorchymyn Rheoli Traffig canlynol yn cael ei ddiwygio fel a ganlyn:

Gorchymyn (Gorfodi Sifil) (Gwahardd Mannau Aros, Llwytho Pharcio a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio 2013) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg.

ATODLEN 1

Cynnig ynglŷn â Gwahardd Aros ar Unrhyw Adeg

Heol St. Cattwg, Pendeulwyn

Ar ochr ogleddol yr heol, o fan sydd oddeutu 14 medr i'r dwyrain o'r }gyffordd â Pendoylan Road, am ryw 28 medr i gyfeiriad y de orllewin a'r gogledd orllewin.

Ar ochr dde'r heol, o fan sydd oddeutu 14 medr i'r dwyrain o'r gyffordd â Pendoylan Road, am ryw29 medr i gyfeiriad y de orllewin.

Dyddiedig 25 Medi 2014

M. E. Punter
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Maesteg £189,000
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- EPC Rating-F

NEW Price

Llanbethery £475,000
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- Four bedrooms
- Four receptions
- Detached double garage
- EPC Rating-C

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Ton Kenfig £75,000
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Cefn Cribwr £50,000
- 0.3 acres
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- Footings for storage building
- Good road access

NEW Price

Pencoed £289,950
- Detached
- Four bedrooms
- Three receptions
- Detached double garage
- EPC Rating-D

Llangan £475,000
- Detached
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- Three reception
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- EPC Rating-C

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Also at
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RICS

Romilly Quarter

CHURCH CONVERSION news update

Welcome to Romilly Quarter on Porthkerry Road in Barry. More than a century after they were built, we are converting the Church and Sunday School Hall to create 11 beautiful new houses.

Modern homes with history…

We're creating modern homes for the modern lifestyle at Romilly Quarter. All the houses at the development will have spacious open plan kitchen and dining areas. Many have voluminous double height spaces, giving a fantastic sense of space, with galleried living rooms.

The quality and size of these homes will far exceed a comparable new build house; from 1 metre thick stone walls, to artisan stained glass, to an original Welsh slate roof, to an exquisite fine detailed feature facade. The conversion will provide all of the historic quality and period features of an historic building with the warmth and energy effiency of a modern home - modern homes with history. They come with 10 year warranties too!

There will be 7 houses in the former Chapel and 4 houses in the School Hall, all with their own garden and parking.

ABOUT BROWNFIELD GREEN LTD...

We are a property development company who specialise in the restoration and sympathetic conversion of historic buildings.

At the heart of our company is a strong moral compass and a guarantee that we will never build on green fields. Every project we work on is a complete one off, and every house is unique.

We act as the developer and contractor which allows us to keep quality high – and provide people with stylish homes.

…lots of history!

• These amazing Victorian gas lamps would have been the latest technology when the church was built. They have been carefully removed and will be repositioned in two of the double height spaces in the Chapel houses. What a feature!

• During the renovations we've also found the remains of an old coal range which would have been used to heat the church back in 1898. Fortunately the new homes will be much cosier, with Worcester Bosch boilers throughout the development and insulation exceeding current building regulations.

Join the Romilly Quarter mailing list to get exclusive access and information about the development, and gain early access on the open day - date to be announced shortly. Please e-mail lucy@brownfieldgreen.co.uk to be kept informed!

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Wenvoe Terrace, BARRY
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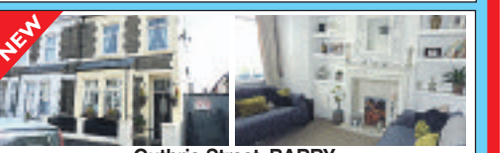
£154,950

NEW



Guthrie Street, BARRY
Stunning presentation, mid terraced traditional, walled forecourted area, 2 separate rec. rooms, modern fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, luxury bathroom, garage - lane access, refurbished. EPC-D.
£121,950

NEW

Laugharne Court, BARRY
Mid terraced, living room, dining room, fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, first floor family bathroom, no chain, gas central heating (not tested). EPC-D.
£70,000

Greenacres, BARRY
Modern semi-detached, four bedrooms, living room, fitted kitchen, enclosed private garden, paved driveway providing ample parking. ER-D
£164,950

The Royal, PENARTH
First floor apartment, placed in a period building, open plan kitchen/diner, family bathroom, double bedroom, courtyard shared garden (accessible from rear bedroom), GCH via combi, no chain. EPC-C.
£124,950

Paget Road, BARRY ISLAND
Contemporary, secure living, 1st floor apartment, open plan living/kitchen, views over cricket green, double bedroom, secure parking to rear, pin code entry system, ideal for FTB or investor. ER-C.
£99,950

Seapoint, BARRY
Two bedroomed, 1st floor apartment, panoramic views towards The Knap & Old Harbour, communal entry system, communal parking, living/dining room, no chain. EPC-E.
£114,950

Courtlands, SULLY
One bedroomed, ground floor, approx 20ft living room, open plan kitchen, 24hr concierge - leisure facility, designated parking, no chain. EPC-D.
£70,000

PUBLIC NOTICE

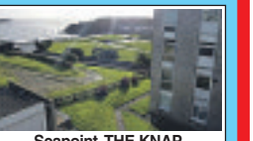
Property Address:
25 Laugharne Court, Caldy Close, Barry, South Glamorgan, CF62 9DW, Wales.
We would like to advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £68,000. Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts. Nina Estate Agents - Barry 01446 736888.

NEW PRICE

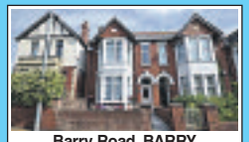
Whitmore Park Drive, BARRY
Modern semi detached, living room, kitchen/breakfast, two bedrooms, family bathroom, driveway providing parking, viewing highly recommended, cul de sac position. EPC-D.
£129,950

Station Street, BARRY
Mid terraced traditional, four bedrooms, through living room, separate dining room, 1st floor bathroom, town centre location, no chain. EPC-D.
£115,000

St. Osyth Court, BARRY
End of link bungalow, two bedrooms, far reaching sea views & Rom. Park, covered balcony, garden to side, designated parking, viewing highly recomended. EPC-D.
£148,500



Seapoint, THE KNAP
2nd floor, one bedroomed, views over the Old Harbour and The Knap, kitchen/breakfast area, family bathroom, economy 7 heating - UPVC DG, security door entry system. EPC-D.
£102,000



Barry Road, BARRY
Mid terraced, double bay traditional, living room, dining room, spacious kitchen/breakfast, three double bedrooms, family bathroom, enclosed rear garden, lane access. EPC-D.
£152,950

Elm Grove, BARRY
Semi detached bungalow, three bedrooms, showhome presented, living room, spacious plot, ample parking, viewing essential. ER-D.
£169,950

Lon Cefn Mably, RHOOSE
Semi detached bungalow, cul de sac position, 2 double bedrooms, kitchen/dining area, replacement modern wet room, ideal plot to extend, GCH UPVC/DG. EPC-E.
£184,950

St Nicholas Road, BARRY
End of link, modern dwelling, 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1st floor bathroom, front garden, garage to rear, small patio garden. EPC-E.
£189,950

Buttrills Road, BARRY
Three bedroomed, semi detached, extended traditional, study, dining room, sunken lounge, enclosed garden, large patio with far reaching views EPC-E.
£199,950

Barry Road, BARRY
Showhome presented, semi detached, living opening to dining room, sun lounge overlooking rear, kitchen - integrated appliances, three bedrooms, bathroom with bath & shower cubicle, level enclosed garden.
£169,950

Glen Mavis Way, BARRY
Three bedroomed, detached dwelling, constructed in the 1960's, living room leading to dining room, sitting room & conservatory, enclosed garden, driveway/garage. EPC-D.
£199,950

Porthkerry Road, BARRY
Spacious living, original features throughout, centralised staircase, three separate rec. rooms, four bedrooms, wc/shower room, utility room, sea views over Bristol Channel, garden. EPC-D.
£199,950

Bron Awelon, BARRY
Semi detached dwelling, off road parking, three bedrooms - ensuite, fitted kitchen, utility, wc, two rec. rooms, sea views from rear, re-roof, replacement boiler. EPC-D.
£224,950

NEW PRICE

Well Walk, THE KNAP
Semi detached, in need of modernisation, original features remaining, two rec. rooms, fitted kitchen, wc cloakroom, spacious plot ideal for extending, off road parking. EPC-D.
£244,950

OPTION OF STAMP DUTY PAID

Nant Talwg Way, BARRY
Detached traditional, 2 reception rooms, wc cloakroom, fitted kitchen, four bedrooms, family bathroom, private enclosed garden, driveway/garage. EPC-C.
£269,950

Kingsland Crescent, BARRY
Spacious end of terrace, through living room, dining room, contemporary fitted kitchen, utility room/wc cloakroom, conservatory, 4 bedrooms & 1st floor bathroom, garage. EPC-E.
£169,950

Colcot Road, BARRY
Extended dwelling, living room opening to sitting area, fitted kitchen/breakfast, wc cloakroom, 4 bedrooms & dressing/study, enclosed garden. ER-C.
£289,950

Lower Farm Court, RHOOSE
Spacious family detached, three reception rooms, five bedrooms, master ensuite, dressing area, double garage, ample parking, cul de sac position. EPC-D.
£369,950

Port Road East, BARRY
Spacious detached, lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, four bedrooms, master ensuite, double garage, private enclosed garden. EPC-D.
£379,950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Nina Estate Agents Ltd are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £119,000 for:
36 College Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 8HQ.
Anyone wishing to place an offer on this property should contact Nina Estate Agents Ltd, 1 Broad Street, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 7AA before exchange of contracts.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Address:
9 Aeron Close, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 7PX.
We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £89,950. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place. EPC-C.

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Branch Director
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Oakfield Road
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Vale Street
Barry
- 2 Bedroom Terrace
- West End Location
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£110,000

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- Reduced Price
- Enclosed Rear Garden

£75,000

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- Private Off Road Parking
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£165,000

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- Garage and Off Road Parking
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Conservatory
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Fairfield Crescent, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
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Greys Drive, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
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Eagle Road, St Athan
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Glebeland Place, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
Family Home
62ft Rear Garden
£119,950 D61

Tennyson Way, Llantwit Major
5 Bedrooms
2 Receptions
Extended
£395,000 D55

Harding Close, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
2 Receptions
Private Rear
£209,950 C69

Boverton Brook, Boverton
4 Bedrooms
Conservatory
Sought After Location
£339,950 E48

Georgian Close, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Kitchen/Diner
Garage
£165,000 D63

Percy Smith Road, Boverton
3/4 Bedrooms
Garage
Extended
£159,950 C71

Monmouth Way, Boverton
4 Bedrooms
2 Receptions
Garage
£209,950

Highmeadow, Llantwit Major
3 Bed Dormer
GCH Combi
Refurbished 2012
£249,950 C72

Bullfinch Road, St Athan
2 Bedrooms
Kitchen/Diner
Large Plot
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Rectory Road, St Athan
4 Bedrooms
2 Receptions
74' Garden
£299,950 D58

Pinewood Square, St Athan
2 Bedrooms
Kitchen/Diner
2014 Combi
£94,950 D62

Nicholl Court, Boverton
2 Bedrooms
Kitchen/Diner
Ideal FTB
£95,000 D59

Whitewell Drive, Llantwit Major
5 Bedrooms
Extended
26' Kitchen/Diner
£285,000 E44

Heol Y Fro, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
2 Receptions
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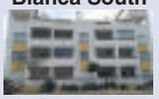
£189,950 D67

Beggars Pound, St Athan
4 Bedrooms
198' Terraced Garden
Period Home
£315,000 F36

Campoamor, Costa Blanca South



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St Michaels Close, St Athan
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Combi GCH
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Sycamore, Wesley Street, Llantwit Major
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Garage
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E41 - £525 PCM.

Evans Street, Barry
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D64 - £525 PCM.

Gerddi Margaret, Barry
First Floor Flat, 2 Bedrooms
with Parking
B81 - £525 PCM.

Barrians Way, Barry
First Floor Flat, Two Bedrooms,
Parking
C76 - £525PCM.

Ty Cwmpas, Barry
2 Bedroom, 1st Floor Flat,
Ensuite
C80 - £550PCM.

Cwrt y Cadno, Llantwit Major
Two Bedroom,
Conservatory, Drive
C70 - £550PCM.

Plas Cleddau, Barry.
Two Double Bedrooms,
First Floor Flat, Equipped
Kitchen.
D55 - £550 PCM.

The Pastures, Barry
2 Bedrooms, Parking, Gardens
D59 - £600 PCM.

Llanmead Gardens,
Rhoose.
Three Bedrooms, En Suite,
Garage.
C70 - £730 PCM.

Church Meadow, Boverton
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Conservatory, Large
Kitchen/Diner
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Family Notices

KING
Ivan John

Flo and the family would like to extend their grateful thanks for all the support they've received since John's death on 1st September.

Thanks, also, for the generous donations to the British Heart Foundation in John's memory.

MORGAN
Richard William

27/5/1937 - 22/9/2014
Formerly of Marcross

Peacefully at home with his cherished children and grandchildren at his bedside.

Richard, devoted husband of Margaret, dearly loved dad to Mandy, John and Cheryl, much loved father-in-law, a loving grandad and great-grandad.

Thank you to Dr Jones and Partners, and the district nurses for their dedication and dignified care and support shown to Dad and us all every day.

A service will be held at 3 Windsor Close, Llantwit Major on Tuesday September 30 at 11.30am, followed by internment at Boverton Cemetery at 12 noon. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major CF32 0SB.

MARTYN
Marie

Marie Martin's family want to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who made her last journey, and the celebration of her life, a day to remember.

David Brown and Park Funerals conducted the arrangements with care, consideration and a personal touch that made mum's funeral a lovely experience.

We want to thank Father Ben at St Mary's Church for his kindness and thoughtfulness, holding the service in one of Barry's historic buildings that accommodated so many people on the day.

Our thanks to Ian, Jackie, Christina and staff at the Dolphin, for providing a fantastic venue for the wake, the buffet and a photo-display on screen. David at ABC Designs produced stunning photograph boards, and family and friends who also contributed on the day.

The turnout of family and friends was incredible. We want to thank everyone for their love, support and cards. The donations will be given to Cancer Research Wales.

Thanks also to The GEM for its article on mum.

HELEN PHILLIPS

Jeff, Brenda and family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the cards, donations and kind expressions of sympathy received at this sad time.

We would also thank the medical team for the care shown to Helen throughout her illness. We have been comforted by all the messages we have received and knowing how much Helen was loved by everyone who knew her. We would also like to thank W. James & Sons Funeral Directors and Reverend Edwin Counsell for their care and compassion shown at this sad time.

GREEN
Walter John

Peacefully on September 22, at Llandough Hospital, Walter (Wally) of Rhoose, beloved husband of Eirlys, dear father of Anita, Louisa and the late Maria, loving grandfather and great grandfather.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday October 3, service and cremation 1.30pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Crossroads Carers, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

CODMAN
Jack

Suddenly, but peacefully, at Llandough Hospital, after a long illness on 18 September, Jack, aged 86 years of Sully.

Beloved husband of Peggy, much loved father of Janet and Christopher, father-in-law of Stuart and Elaine, cherished grandfather of Sean. Jack will be sadly missed by all of his family and friends.

Resting at AG Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until his funeral on Monday 29 September. Service at the chapel at 2.45pm, afterwards cremation at Barry Crematorium. Immediate family flowers only.

If desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the service for British Heart Foundation.

ARMELIN
Armando

Peacefully on 21 September 2014 at home with his family, Armando, aged 60 years of Lakeside, Barry. Dearly loved husband of Kim, a loved father of Lucy and Henry, dearly loved son of Gianna and the late Toni. Loving brother of Carla, Paola, Francis, Anthony and Pia.

Armando will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at AG Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Friday 26 September. Service and committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, where family and friends please meet at 2.15pm.

Family flowers only - donations, if desired, may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral, for Velindre Hospital.

PARKS
Julie Ann

On September 19, at her home in St Athan, after a long, hard battle against illness, Julie, beloved wife of Andy, dearly loved mother of Chris, loving daughter of Gerda and the late Ken Teague, dear sister of David, an inspirational lady to all who knew her.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Thursday October 2, service and cremation 2.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Velindre Hospital c/o Mrs C James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

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Emma Griffiths

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Dyddiedig 25 Medi 2014

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH CREATION AGREEMENT
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL 21/22
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 9 SULLY)
PUBLIC PATH CREATION & DEDICATION AGREEMENT 2014

1. The above named agreement completed on the 24th day of June 2014 has the effect of creating a public footpath by agreement with the landowner.
2. The effect of the agreement is to create a public footpath commencing at the adopted highway known as St Mary's Well Bay Road to the adopted highway known as Beach Road.

   Public Footpath No 9 Sully commences from St Mary's Well Bay Road running in front of the public house, The Captain's Wife, across to Beach Road.
3. A copy of the agreement may be seen free of charge at the Dock Office, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT from 9.00am to 4.00pm on any weekday. Copies of the agreement may be bought there at £4.50.
4. The Agreement comes into operation with immediate effect.

Dated 25th September 2014

Director of Development Services
Dock Office, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

FINALS DAY SEES SOME EXCELLENT MATCH-PLAY ACTION AT ST ATHAN GC

ABOVE: Junior finalists Josh Morgan and Rhodri Miskin.

ABOVE: Championship finalists BJ Hawkins (left), Gerald Thomas and their caddies.

ABOVE: The Fairwood Park Cup finalists.

ST ATHAN Golf Club's best golfers assembled at the clubhouse on Saturday, September 20, to compete in their annual club finals day.

The day was the culmination of various competitions played throughout the year and the outcome on finals day decided whose names would go onto the coveted competition boards.

The greenkeepers and their volunteers had worked tirelessly leading up to the event to ensure that the course was in pristine condition and the members were rewarded with the course presented tremendously.

All of the matches were match play format with the majority of them played over 36 holes. In the club championship there was a real see-saw contest. First BJ Hawkins went ahead and then Gerald Thomas; the match was all square after 18 holes, both players had managed to find an out-of-bounds but both still carded a gross 75.

Unfortunately for BJ, Gerald put his head down and dug deep, eventually finishing the game 4 and 2, securing the main title '2014 club champion'.

The plate final saw JWG Morgan and Pete Morgan square up, both long time members of the club and veterans of competing on finals day.

JWG soon took the lead and ensured he maintained it; increasing his three hole advantage at the half way stage to 5 up after 21 holes before settling back to finish the game 4 and 3.

The Rabbits Trophy was won by Phil Lewis but not before a fight back from Mike Clark who was 5 down at the turn. Whether it was complacency by Phil or stubbornness by Mike, the game sat all square after 33 holes but Mike graciously accepted defeat 2 and 1.

Ethan Allison and Keiran Whilding came up against each other to compete in the 18 hole Dan Archer trophy; Ethan was 2 up after nine before stepping up the impetus to finish as the victor by 4 and 2.

The Fairwood Park was the only team event, a four-ball better-ball format, saw Gary Bohun with playing partner Kyle Bladen snatch the title from Gerry Turnbull and Frank Bradshaw with a 2 & 1 victory.

The junior championship saw a match that was virtually all over after 20 holes but Josh Morgan must be congratulated for keeping the game alive; pulling back from five down! It looked as if the match would have to go down the 37th; however Rhodri Miskin kept his cool and holed a putt on the 36th to become this year's junior champion.

The ladies final was once again contested by Liz Thomas; she wasn't deterred after seeing herself go 5 down after 6 holes and managed to pull the match back to all square for a short time.

However Michelle Bligh, with her husband Lee on the bag, proved the stronger of the two, winning 3 and 1 and lifting the 2014 ladies championship title.

Experienced finalist Janet Davies faced a relative newcomer to golf, Gaynor Williams, for the Millennium Plate trophy. Gaynor, after leading for most of the game, was left to think 'if only' as Janet's determination paid off, resulting in her winning the match on the 18th hole.

The greens staff, referees, caddies and spectators must be applauded for the superb conduct they displayed; their reward was witnessing a true demonstration of exceptional golf played by all of the competitors throughout the day.

St Athan Golf Club welcomes new players and visitors; a function room is available for private hire and catering is available. For further information contact the club manager on 01446 751043.

CM

ABOVE: Ladies finalists Michelle Bligh (left) and Liz Thomas.

ABOVE: Janet Davies and Gaynor Williams.

ABOVE: JWG Morgan and Pete Morgan.

ABOVE: Phil Lewis and Mike Clark.

ABOVE: Ethan Allison and Keiran Whilding.

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Barry Seconds take the win against Quins

BARRY Second XV returned to action after a week's rest with Cardiff Quins the visitors.

Coach Rhidian Scott and manager Ken Chow, back after 3rd XV duty, were faced with a crippling injury list which forced them to delve deep into the squad. Eight players put on the green and white for the first time this season, and there was also a welcome return to action for John Haskell, who made the replacement bench.

The huge disruptions to the side's preparations were clearly evident, as poor defensive play allowed the visitors to go 14-0 ahead within the first five minutes.

Rattled, the home side finally got their act together under the leadership of captain Lee Jones, and produced a sustained period of pressure.

Their industry was finally rewarded when the ball was spread out wide, and the pace of Rhys Knapman took him beyond all would-be tacklers to the try line. Adam Lee failed to add the extras.

Buoyed by the reduction of the deficit, Barry poured forward to search for another score. With the forwards in the ascendency, marshalled superbly by veteran scrum-half John Dimond, it was down to Paul Harrison who picked up from a ruck on halfway, before barging his way through defenders to score a memorable try. Lee converted to make the score 12-14.

Cardiff Quins were finding it difficult to handle the physicality of the Barry pack, but it was the inability to handle a high kick from Rhidian Mepham which saw Sion Vidal to profit from the error and score under the posts. Lee stroked over the conversion.

Barry did not let their grip of the game slip, and once again camped on the Quins line as they looked for the bonus-point try. After prolonged pressure, Josh Westall proved himself unstoppable from five yards as he powered over. The conversion was missed.

The visitors now realised that it was futile to try to compete up front against the powerful Barry eight, and resorted to using their speedy backs in an attempt to bring themselves back into the game.

With Barry down to 14 men after the sin-binning of Jones, they managed a converted try to bring the score to 26-21.

Barry responded by releasing their own set of backs, and ball was spread quickly out wide with Alex Evans the recipient, and he raced away to score in the corner. Lee failed to add the extras.

With all four substitutes now on for the home side, they came forward once again to threaten the Quins line, and this time it was Dave Evans who dived through near the posts, making Lee's conversion a formality.

The visitors did have the last say with a late consolation, but the day ultimately belonged to Barry who finished 36-28 winners as they secured a second successive bonus point victory.

This weekend the 2nd XV travel to Clwb Rygbi, while the 3rd XV host Taffs Well.

Team: Lee; Knapman, Flynn, A Evans, Mepham; McCann, Dimond; Corne, Vidal, Heard; Westall, Dutton; Harrison, Jones ©, J Evans. Replacements: Sullivan, Haskell, Harris, D Evans. Man of the match: Vidal. **KC**

ABOVE: Boxer Lee Selby is in training for a world title eliminator.

Barry boxer has eyes on world title

LEE SELBY, the current WBC international, British and Commonwealth featherweight champion, recently met the Vale of Glamorgan Mayor at the County Library in Barry.

On display in the library is Lee's kit that he wore in October 2013 when he fought Ryan Walsh in his final defence of the Lonsdale Belt. He won the match on points in 12 rounds.

Lee's next fight is in October in the O2 Arena, London, where he will fight the Australian boxer Joel Brunker in the final eliminator for the IBF world title. Brunker has won all of his 27 fights and has managed 15 knock-outs.

Lee said: "I know this is going to be a tough fight, but I feel confident in my ability to beat Brunker."

The Mayor, Coun Howard Hamilton, said: "I am sure all the people of Barry and the Vale of Glamorgan will be cheering for Lee and will wish him the very best of luck."

Annual Ploughing & Hedging Society ploughing match

'Don't mind us... we'll just plough on'

ON Sunday, September 14, the Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing & Hedging Society held its Ploughing Match at Tyn y Caeau Farm, Marcross by permission of Mr J Evans and family.

There were 47 tractors taking part, proving that the support for ploughing matches is growing throughout.

The chairman, Andrew Studley, thanked all concerned for the hard work put into organising the event and also all the competitors for making it a most memorable day.

The many spectators who turned up saw two teams of horses ploughing alongside all the tractors. They must have been the most photographed participants at the event!

The judges were K Davies, T Harris and A Lucas, and the results of the competition were:

Class 1 – Open Vintage Trailer Plough: 1st Gordon Harries (Pembrokeshire).

Class 2 – Open Vintage Hydraulic Plough: 1st Tony Bradley (Monmouth), 2nd Peter Kitchen (Monmouth), 3rd Ceri Richards (Carmarthenshire).

Class 3 – Classic Class: 1st John Cole (Hereford), 2nd Jeremy Jacobs (Glamorgan), 3rd Kevin Miles (Monmouth).

Class 5 – Novice: 1st Peter Batchelor (Glam), 2nd Jamie Williams (Glam), 3rd Julie Long (Glam), 4th Caroline Langford (Glam).

Class 6 – Commercial Reversible: 1st Adam Llewellyn (Glam), 2nd Lloyd Thomas (Glam), 3rd Ross James (Glam).

The Ferguson Club European T.20 Championship was held as part of the Ploughing Match. The two judges were David Bowyer (Devon) and Bill Isaac (Wiltshire) and the results of the championship were:

Champion: Keith Williams (Hereford), 2nd Will John (Pembs), 3rd John S Evans (Pembs), 4th Graham L Jones (Flintshire), 5th Roy Jury (Devon).

International Team Wales: Will John (Pembs), John S Evans (Pembs).

Best Junior and Winner of the Ian Ferguson Shield: Sam Ritchie (Powys).

Highest Scoring Welshman: Will John (Pembs).

Best turned out T.20 Ferguson and Plough: Basil George (Glam).

Basil George

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RECENTLY, the Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwondo Do attend a W.O.M.A.A. held fun competition to raise monies for Diabetes, hosted by Mal Johns and Leanne Emmerson.

The event was well supported with competitors from all over the UK in a friendly but competitive manner; there was a category for every competitor from beginners, intermediate, and advanced, with several Welsh and English title bouts also taking place on the day.

Fighting for Welsh title we had Cody Jacobsen, and competing in a title eliminator we had Thea Cunningham - both students took the fights at a week's notice. The title fights consisted of three, two-minute rounds, and Cody took his opponent all the way losing by one point in the final minute.

Young Thea Cunningham's bout was nip and tuck throughout the three rounds, Thea just losing out in the third round by two points. Overall the Cadoxton School had a good day, coming away with a total of nine firsts, 10 second and eight third places in all categories.

Patterns: Beginner: 1st Ethan Andrus, 2nd Cameron Evans, 3rd Charlie Rogers. Intermediate: 1st Jessica Blackley, 2nd Joel Wells, 3rd Maddison Allen. Advanced: 1st Cody Jacobsen, 2nd Jake Quigley, 3rd Cian Allen.

Weapons: Beginner: 1st Ethan Andrus, 2nd Cameron Evans. Intermediate: 1st Joel Wells, 2nd Jessica Blackley, 3rd Lucia Cunningham. Advanced: 1st Cody Jacobsen, 2nd Cian Allen, 3rd Jake Quigley. Adult: 1st Matthew Bennett.

Point Sparring: Beginner: 2nd Charlie Rogers, 3rd Deagan Stockford and Cameron Evans. Intermediate: 2nd Lucia Cunningham, Maddison Allen & Thea Cunningham, 3rd Jessica Blackley. Advanced: 1st Cody Jacobsen. Adult: 1st Matthew Bennett.

Pictured above with their instructors and coaches are Joel Wells, Ethan Andrus, Jessica Blackley, Lucia Cunningham, Jake Quigley, Cian Allen, Cody Jacobsen, Cameron Evans, Charlie Rogers, Deagan Stockford, Maddison Allen and Thea Cunningham.

For further information phone (01446) 406372 or see www.cadoxtontaekwondo.weebly.com.

RT

The Barry Saints stroll to victory to maintain their perfect start to the season

BARRY Saints welcomed G.C.A.W to Wenvoe and maintained their perfect start to the season with an 8-2 victory.

Saints striker Darren Townsend broke the deadlock after beating the offside trap and rounding the keeper to calmly slot the ball home. G.C.A.W were forcing the game looking for a reply which nearly came, only to find centre back Rhys Hocking in the way to clear off the line.

Saints began to dictate the tempo and Townsend took full advantage, bursting past his defender to open up his body and bend a shot around the keeper into the far corner.

Nathan Williams got in on the act after a trademark powerful run, latching on to a through ball to sidefoot under the onrushing keeper just before the halftime whistle.

Saints came out with a bang and Townsend grabbed another to complete his hattrick, as he used his chest to control a cross from Drew Burniston and lift a sidefooted volley over the keeper.

G.C.A.W grabbed a goal from a cross from the right which was finished with ease. David A Evans added his name to the list of scorers after beating the offside trap and emphatically sending the ball into the net.

G.C.A.W were then awarded a penalty after a handball which was converted expertly. Straight from kick off, a crisp passing move from the Saints gave David Evans the opportunity to strike a low powerful shot across the keeper which struck the post and crossed the line.

Townsend added his fourth after a good cross from James Rouse saw him finish with a low effort in to the bottom corner.

Michael Evans finished things off. Challenging for a bouncing ball, he beat his marker and was left one on one before rounding the keeper to tap home.

Barry Saints would like to offer a special thanks to Nat, the owner of Orchard House, for his kind sponsorship helping the team going forward.

GL

Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge club for September 22:

1st John Raymond & Alan Lewis 62.34%, 2nd Marjorie Morris & Linda Pinnock 61.04%, 3rd Tony Disley & John Evans 59.42%.

LE

BARRIVALE BRIDGE

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for September 16:

1st Denis Mottram & Mike Best 76.67%; 2nd Dave Thomas & Tom Kendrick 57.50%; 3rd Irene Thomas & Jane Brook 53.75%.

Denis Mottram and Mike Best also won on handicap.

The handicap winners of the Doughty Bowl competition, played on August 5, were Ken Hannah and Jane Brook (*pictured above*).

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

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Weather doesn't impact on action at Llandow

ALTHOUGH the weather gods decided to play a trick on Llandow, with mixed conditions for what was supposedly a summer month, the Welsh club continued to produce fine action on-track as the championship moved into its second half.

With no Bambinos present, the assorted Cadet classes kicked things off, with Shay Keough and Max Fenlon sharing the heat wins in the IAME category. When it came to the final, however, Thomas Nippers – who had been denied by just 0.001secs in heat three - came through to surprise both, claiming a rare success, with Fenlon second and Connor Kearney third.

The Honda class was no less fiercely contested, with Austin Maddocks and George Alp-Williams taking victory in the heats, before Jack Fordham stole the honours in the main event. Alp-Williams crossed the line in second place, with Maddocks third, just behind lone Comer runner Shayne Clarke.

The Honda Junior races were dominated by Celtic champion Kristian Prosser and Welsh champion Patrick Hill. The latter opened the day with victory in heat one but thereafter had to play second fiddle to his big rival, as Prosser took the top step in the remaining races.

Behind them, Jack Bligh claimed third in heat one, before Ben Cutler took over the role of chief pursuer for the remainder of the day.

Junior and Mini Max once again ran together on-track, but there was no denying Rob Ellis who, after July's interruption, returned to winning ways in fine style with a clean sweep of all four outings in the Junior category. David Spiller and Tom Croydon gave chase, with the later finishing as runner-up in the final, where Ceran Sokhi completed the podium.

Mini Max went the way of reigning Welsh champion Ethan Ling, who saw off the challenge of Riley Phillips in each race. Kieran Clarke and Jem Hempworth duelled over third spot, with the latter eventually taking the final step of the podium.

Junior TKM produced four different winners from as many races, with Ross Deal, Hugo Homes and Yousuf Ashraf taking a heat apiece before Alex Rees came through to again claim top spot in the final. Holmes and Ashraf completed the top three, less than a second behind the winner, with Deal eventually classified fourth.

Danny Griffiths continued his recent dominant form in Senior Honda, but was denied a third consecutive sweep of the day's action by being excluded from the opening heat. Undeterred, he bounced back to win the remaining races, including heading home Paul Saunders by some six seconds in the finale. Monty Gorringe claimed the final podium spot, denying Cristiano Nardone, who had celebrated victory in heat one earlier in the day.

In the absence of Tom Stride, July winner Dilip Singh proved the man to beat in Senior Rotax, taking heats one and three before repeating his success in the main event. Gareth Taylor proved to be Singh's closest opposition on this occasion, winning the remaining heat before chasing the victor home in the final. Sam Morgan chased Taylor to the line before rounding out the top three.

RESULTS:

CADET HONDA - 1. Jack Fordham (BRK), 2. George Alp-Williams (Project One), 3. Austin Maddocks (Project One). CADET COMER - 1. Shayne Clarke (Zip). CADET IAME - 1. Thomas Nippers (Zip), 2. Max Fenlon (RK/Birel), 3. Connor Kearney (Zip). JUNIOR HONDA - 1. Kristian Prosser (7Kart), 2. Patrick Hill (Wright), 3. Ben Cutler (7Kart).

JUNIOR TKM - 1. Alex Rees (Jade), 2. Hugo Holmes (Tonykart), 3. Yousuf Ashraf (Jade). JUNIOR ROTAX - 1. Rob Ellis (Kosmic), 2. Tom Croydon (Gillard), 3. Ceran Sokhi (Kosmic). MINI MAX - 1. Ethan Ling (CRG), 2. Riley Phillips (Kosmic), 3. Jem Hempworth (CRG).

SENIOR HONDA - 1. Danny Griffiths (MS), 2. Paul Saunders (7Kart), 3. Monty Gorringe (7Kart). SENIOR ROTAX - 1. Dilip Singh (CRG), 2. Gareth Taylor (CRG), 3. Sam Morgan (CRG).

BEST NOVICE: Jenson Davis (Cadet Honda), DRIVER OF THE DAY: Thomas Nippers (Cadet IAME).

CRAIG LLEWELLYN

Llantwit Major Karate Club are celebrating after achieving silver Insport accreditation.

Llantwit Major Karate Club gains disability inclusion accolade

THE Llantwit Major Karate Club has become the first sport club in the Vale, as well as the first karate club in Wales, to achieve silver Insport accreditation level.

It is only one step away from achieving gold, which is the top award for inclusion in Wales.

Club sensei Simon Dodd commented: "As an organisation run by volunteers, it is great that we can still offer one of the highest levels of inclusion in Wales. Karate can have a huge impact on people's lives and I am proud we can serve the community in this way."

The Welsh Karate League has a disability category where people with a range of impairments can enter and take part in a competitive environment alongside the non-disabled participants.

The next league meeting is in Penarth Leisure Centre on Sunday, September 28 at 10am. Entry is free and everyone is welcome to attend.

Simon Jones, Disability Sport Wales Development Officer for the Vale of Glamorgan Council, added: "I think it's brilliant that so many clubs in the Vale of Glamorgan are aiming to be inclusive and provide activities for disabled people.

"The aim is to have a wide range of sport and physical activity clubs in the Vale that will go through the Insport process.

"This will give disabled people more choice in what activities they wish to take part in and hopefully get them hooked on sport."

Insport is a Disability Sport Wales programme, designed to support governing bodies, local authorities and clubs to provide inclusive, quality sessions for disabled people within their communities, and at a level of their choice and abilities.

Numerous clubs throughout the Vale of Glamorgan have already completed the accreditation scheme up to ribbon and bronze level including Vale Reds Football Club, Barry Beavers Swimming Club, Boccia Rollers, and St Andrew's Major Special Olympics Golf Club. More clubs are being encouraged to sign up so more disabled people can take part in sport.

If you are interested in your physical activity or sport club becoming inclusive, contact Simon Jones, Disability Sport Wales Development Officer for the Vale Council on 01446 704728 or sljones@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Athletic youth in whitewash

BRIDGEND Athletic youth played their second league fixture and their first at home when they welcomed Tonmawr youth to Newbridge fields on a bright September afternoon.

Tonmawr youth were newcomers to the Ospreys A League and so were an unknown quantity to Bridgend Athletic but came with a reputation as being one of the toughest youth teams in the region.

The Ath had made a good start to the season and this game was seen as an important one in terms of the potential success in the league for the rest of the campaign.

Both teams fielded sides made up of first, second and third year players and this led to a very even game in the opening encounters with both teams prepared to run the ball on every possible opportunity.

The Athletic backs were however looking the sharper in the first quarter and only excellent Tonmawr defence and last gasp mistakes by the Ath prevented a number of tries being scored.

The Bridgend Athletic forwards were also looking strong and dominated possession for long periods, keeping Tonmawr pinned in their own half.

The pressure began to tell and Tonmawr were forced to concede a number of penalties for infringements around the rucks and mauls and when one such infringement was called in a kickable position, Bridgend number 10 Josh Carey stepped up but pulled the kick narrowly wide.

A further penalty attempt again missed narrowly but the Bridgend team were now pressing hard and when the ball was won in midfield and spread between the half backs of Tom McCardle and Josh Carey and centres Sean Wilcox and Tom Jenkins, full back Craig Lewis came into the line to put winger Liam Phillips into space.

The wing ran some 25 metres down the touchline but was caught with 10 to go. Fortunately some excellent support play by back row forward Reuben Tooze allowed Phillips to offload for Tooze to go over in the corner for the Ath's first try.

The conversion went wide to take the score to 5-0

There were no further scores in the half, but the second half began with Tonmawr going all out to turn things around and they ran the ball at Bridgend on numerous occasions and it was clear they had not come to lose this game.

Bridgend's defence was being tested but again and again they showed great resolve with forwards Eithan Davies, Luke Williams, Matthew Bennett and Reuben Tooze outstanding in the loose, and tight forwards Zach Evans, Cameron Thomas, Lloyd Rees, and Tom Seldon controlling the set pieces.

The Bridgend coaches began to make some personnel changes early on in the second period bringing on young scrum half Dan James for Tom McCardle and in the front row Hywel Cosby at hooker and prop Cian House.

In the backs wing Ben Jones was on for Liam Phillips and full back Jo Symons on for Craig Lewis who moved to centre.

The exciting James made an instant impact after good Bridgend forward pressure earned a scrum five metres out and when the half back picked up at back of the scrum he threw a brilliant dummy to dive over for an excellent try. Replacement wing Ben Jones slotted the conversion and Bridgend were 12-0 up.

Further replacements in the forwards saw back row player Jeavon Bell and prop Nathan Watts on for Bridgend to keep the momentum going, but again the gutsy Tonmawr team came at Bridgend at every opportunity.

Bridgend Athletic were too well organised however and would not concede a score and indeed they continued to dominate territory and possession, and with five minutes to go further pressure allowed the Bridgend backs to open up the Tonmawr defence and spread the ball to right wing Rhys Lloyd out wide.

The rapid winger needs no invitation to run and sprinted 30 metres to cross in the corner for the Athletic's third try. The conversion went narrowly wide but this was good enough to take the match to the end, the final score being 17-0

Huge credit must go to the Tonmawr side for the massive determination they showed, but the Bridgend Athletic coaching staff of Tony Bennett, Gerwyn Wilcox, James Groom and Gavin Thomas were again delighted in the way their whole squad performed on the day.

This is another important win early in the league programme and is another great confidence boost as they continue the league season away this week at Waunarlwydd.

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Golfers help raise money 'fore' charity!

A record number of 130 golfers took part in this year's Veterans Charity Day at St Athan Golf Club in aid of Age Concern Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan, an event that has become an annual event, with many coming from around south Wales.

The first golfers teed off at 7.30am playing a four ball better ball stableford competition in rather inclement weather, but later we were blessed with good dry weather for the rest of the days play.

The winners were as follows:

First Mr T Graham & Mr R Husband (St Athan) – 46 pts, second Mr A Williams & Mrs G Williams (St Athan) - 46 pts (CB), third Mr M Hurry & Mr C Sherman (St Athan) – 45 pts, fourth Mr G Bohun & Mr M Whilding (St Athan)- 43 pts (CB), fifth Mr R Davidge & Mr M Edwards (St Athan) - 43 pts (CB).

There were six 'two's' awarded, and the longest drive went to Mr T Warner (Cottrell), and nearest the pin went to Mr R Bland (St Andrews Major) on the sixth hole.

Later that evening a cheque for £2000 was presented to Mr G Bohun representing Age Concern Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan by veterans captain Stu Jennings (*pictured above*). He thanked everyone that took part for their very generous donation.

Sincere thanks to all the local business for their sponsorship in another very successful day.

HP-M

Barry and District LDS Skittle League

First Division: Allsorts (R Dawe 28), SV Gals (C Lewis, J Richards 28); Colcot LDS (K Taylor 31), Barry Stars (C Lambeth 30); Red Admiral (J Jones, S Clements 25), Castaways (G Drew 28; Space Finders (L Hembury 33), Pila Palas (V Evans 34); Cigar LDS (B Gough 33), Family Affair (C Grubb, J Davies 30); Bakers Dz (M Lewis 27), Family and Friends (J Crompton 28).

Second Division: Strikers (J Mills 27), Witchill Widows (L Sullivan, L Spyrow 24); Luckies (E Walters 36), Roller Coasters (M Merriott, M Burgess 33); Vixens (G Jones, M Marks 29), Divas (L Hall 29); Castle Bandits (D Collard, E Evans, J Grant 25), SV Lights (D Masterman, E Andrews 27); Cad Con Fillies (M Boulter 24), Witchell Weebies (D Dangerfiedl 26); Breakaways (Vicky Martin, L Smith 31), Rhoose Starlights (C Dally 31).

Third Division: Rhoose Ravers (A Robinson 27), Airways Angels (J Thomas 27); Witchill Wanderers (P Schembri 34), Jolly Dollies (V Laudner 32); Rugby Triers (S Watts 25), Westenders (C Gee 24); SV LDS (L Givern 33), Hill Billies (D Stewart 33); Lil Devils (T Corrigan 27), Dolly Mixtures (E Bryan 23)); Etcetera (M Grasby 26), Persuaders (K Scott 33); Merry Makers (Davies 28), Friends and Neighbours (R Page 21).

Fourth Division: Odd Bods (A Bartolo 26), Rebels (J Farr 27); Wyndham Witches (W Williams 27), BFFs (R Britton 26); La-Belles (C Knight 36), Fallen Angels (C Stephens 32; Challengers (M Grifiths 27), The Rails (S Crump 26).

Fifth Division: Barry Ravers (J Gough, G Stacey 27), Liberals (S Williams 26); Park Belles (M Whitehurst 35), Optimists (J Holland 31); Aristocats (M Atkinson, T Weston 26), Socialites (J Hawkins 25); Guardian Angels (Sarah Aston 23), Billy Bunters (G Loveless 24).

Vale MP Alun Cairns pictured at Rhoose Amateur Boxing Club.

MP WADES IN TO HELP OUT LOCAL BOXING CLUB

THE involvement of Rhoose Amateur Boxing Club in the local community has been praised by local MP Alun Cairns.

Ex-professional boxer 'Barry Bomber' Michael Smyth and Lee Barratt are the men behind the club and Mr Cairns was given an insight into training techniques and financial challenges they faced.

"Clubs like this are vital to our communities, but they can often be confronted with substantial running costs and paperwork to operate," the MP said.

"The Rhoose club is a terrific example of the community helping youngsters from across the Vale. I will work with the 'Barry Bomber' Michael Smyth to ensure any potential funding and support can be accessed," he promised.

Chess players in good form

AT the final summer congress, Barry Chess Club was again well represented, with three players in the open section and a further two players in the under 1,500. This was a five-round Swiss style congress.

Craig Woolcock, Lee Davis and Nigel Ralphs were among the 16 competitors in the Open section. The eventual winner was Peter Ehsander from the Cardiff Chess Club who finished with 4.5 points from his five games.

Craig Woolcock finished in second place, earning four wins after losing his first match against Shayanna Sivarajsingham.

Lee Davis and Nigel Ralphs finished in equal fourth place on 3.5 points. Lee lost to Tim Kett in the final round when a win would have given him a share of the title.

Nigel remained unbeaten throughout the tournament but was awarded two byes during the weekend so he only dropped half a point from his three completed matches.

In the under 1,500 section, two of our newer players were among the participants. Stephen Bonutto and Jason Grice both had an identical score of 1.5 out of 5 and finished in equal ninth place. The key match here was in the final round when Stephen defeated Jason in the only all-Barry contest.

The main East Glamorgan League tournament has now started with wins for all four of our teams in the opening round.

The best result was seen in division one where the Camelots defeated a strong Cardiff Bishops side by a margin of 3.5 to 1.5. This seems even more impressive when the Bishops outrated us on every board.

The Bishops normally end the season in the top three so this augers well for the season. The perennial winners of the title, the Cardiff Castles, started badly, only managing a draw with Nelson.

The Bosons are in second place after the first round of games having defeated a weaker Aberdare side by 4-1.

However if we hope to challenge for the title this year we need to win these matches by the maximum margin possible, so we will feel agrieved to have drawn matches against lower ranked players on boards 4 and 5.

The team to watch this year seems to be the North Cardiff Woodpushers who have seen their membership almost double with a number of new players and transfers from the Cardiff club.

In division three, we started well winning at Pentyrch by 3.5 to 1.5. We hope this team has now found its correct level and will not be fighting relegation again.

In rating terms we should have done even better as Martin Ricketts on board 5 will be disappointed not to have beaten Mike McLoughlin on board 5.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club. St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit: barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

PHIL JONES

FAMOUS RIDERS FROM THE VALE

Neale Doughty

DAVID Neale Doughty, who came from Kenfig Hill, was a graduate of the Llangeinor Hunt Pony Club.

He ofter competed against his friend Paul Hamer, who became a Welsh champion point-to-point rider, at local gymkhanas.

Although he never rode in local point-to-points, Neale set his sights on a racing career at an early age.

At the age of 10 he would go around knocking the doors of the houses in his village asking if he could ride the owners' ponies.

After a while, his father bought him a pony which he shared with his two sisters and from then on a career in racing was never in doubt, even though a doctor told him he would probably be too big to become a professional jockey.

Born in 1957, he quit his academic studies at the age of 17 to join Welsh trainer the legendary Fulke Walwyn at Lambourn.

Then after a period of time with Wilf Crawford and Bill Marshall, he was spotted by Cumbrian trainer Gordon Richards, who wanted him as a successor to Ron Barry.

It was when riding for Gordon Richards that he won the 1984 Grand National on *Hallo Dandy*, on whom he had finished fourth in the previous year's race.

Neale kept the 10-year-old *Hallo Dandy* on the outside of the course and clear of trouble throughout the race. A big jump at Becher's on the second circuit gained him a lot of ground and he landed in sixth place.

By the time the Valentine's obstacle had been jumped, *Hallo Dandy* and the favourite *Greasepaint* were clear of the other 21 horses who were to finish the race, then the largest number of finishers on record.

Another good jump at the penultimate fence gave *Hallo Dandy* the lead and he jumped the last fence two lengths clear of *Greasepaint* who, despite renewing his challenge, had to settle for the runners-up spot for the second successive year.

Doughty had a really remarkable Grand National record. Only once in 10 of his Grand National rides did he fail to complete the course. Before his success he had finished fifth, then fourth, then 12th, sixth, seventh, third and fifth.

In the void Grand National of 1993 he had finished sixth of the seventh finishers on *On The Other Hand*, a horse he had high hopes of winning him his second National.

Neale, who rode his first winner at Perth in 1977, rode a lot of big race winners and these included *Must Be Magic, Pounentes, Clever Folly, Noddy's Ryde, Lord Greystoke* and *Current Gold*.

Adapted from Brian Lee's Welsh Steeplechase Jockeys, Cwmnedd Press, Neath, 1993.

BRIAN LEE

Glamorgan GEM Sport

YOUR DEFINITIVE SPORTS ROUND-UP

Send your match reports, news and other items of interest to: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

Depleted Cowbridge suffer loss

COWBRIDGE RFC travelled last Saturday to early Division 3 East Central A leaders Old Illtydians RFC with a depleted team following some late player withdrawals, although it was good to see Carwyn Morgan back at 10 and Harry Gibson and Steph Kitchen having a run out.

From the kick off the home side adopted a high tempo game plan with their strong running centres making good yards and giving their backrow an excellent platform to play off.

Cowbridge did not help their cause when they gifted their opponents an interception try early on and sadly this pattern continued for the first half with repeated Cowbridge mistakes in possession undoing good defensive work and putting themselves back under unnecessary pressure.

Cowbridge infringements were punished with kicks to the corner, where 'Old Illtyds' used their driving line out to good effect scoring a couple of further tries, and this combined with excellent counter attacking from loose play gave them a 26 point lead at halftime.

The second half started with much of the same and Cowbridge failing to make the most of their possession and conceding three tries in 10 minutes, the first two from further Cowbridge mistakes.

The last half hour saw Cowbridge benefit from a bit more possession and they started to put together some phases of play that drew infringements from the opposition, culminating in a yellow card for preventing a quick tap penalty and later a red card for foul play.

However, Old Illtyds were next to score when despite a terrific cover tackle by No 8 Ryan Hall on the left hand touchline, they recycled the ball well and showed good skills to score on the left.

From the kick off another strong tackle by impressive Connor Wyatt playing out of position at centre saw a brief period of Cowbridge pressure.

A further infringement by the home side led to a quick tap penalty by Huw Lougher and with some long awaited positive running and good interplay, Tom Johnson went over in the corner for a well taken try, which he impressively converted himself from the right hand touchline.

The last word however went to Old Illtydians, whose right wing gathered a long clearance to weave his way through a tired Cowbridge defence from 60 yards out making the final score 55-7.

A disappointing scoreline but to their credit the Cowbridge 15, with several players out of position, played with a lot more conviction than previously but were up against a very good side.

This Saturday we take on Wick away in the SWALEC Bowl. However it is advisable to check with the club this Thursday as there is some doubt that the fixture will take place.

The following Saturday we travel to Old Penarthians, followed by Dinas Powys at home on October 11.

This Saturday the youth first team are away at Penarth while the second team are home to Llantwit Major.

GT/RV/RK

Cowbridge under-14s' unbeaten record ends

COWBRIDGE under-14s' unbeaten start to the season came to an end away to Pencoed on a glorious autumn Sunday morning.

The boys knew most of their opposition very well, either through playing district rugby together or school rugby, and knew they would be in for a good game.

Cowbridge kicked off and kept Pencoed camped inside their own 22 with some ferocious first up tackling by the forwards. The Cowbridge did extremely well to turn the ball over, only to give a penalty away allowing Pencoed to clear their lines.

Pencoed forced their way up the pitch using their larger number 8 and inside centre to good effect. Cowbridge defended extremely hard, with Jack Dixon producing a try saving tackle against a much larger player. Dixon not only managed to stop the player scoring a try but drove him back a further five metres. Iestyn Fenn turned the ball over and Evan Thomas kicked the ball clear.

From this clearing kick the Pencoed full back ran the ball back deep inside the Cowbridge 22. The game's opening try came from the resulting breakdown. With the Cowbridge defence stretched Pencoed moved the ball along the line, allowing their inside centre the space to hand off the remaining two Cowbridge defenders to score in the corner.

Cowbridge responded well, with a great try of their own. Cowbridge were awarded a penalty, and bravely opted to run the ball rather than kick for touch. Rueben Williams ran hard at the Pencoed defence, offloading the ball to Harry Ridge just before he hit the ground. Ridge threw the ball from behind back to Iwan Pryce-Thomas who put Dixon away. Dixon handed off his opposite number, sidestepped the covering full back and ran through the covering defence for a great solo try.

Both teams were playing some great rugby, and were evenly matched. Dan O'Sullivan and Ben Jones were incredibly brave in consistently tackling boys 50 per cent bigger than themselves. With the game entering the final stages of the first half Pencoed scored a decisive try. Pencoed had an attacking line out just inside the Cowbridge 22, and quick clean ball from the line out allowed their scrum half to put Mike Bosley, the Pencoed fly-half, in the clear.

With a subtle but very effective sidestep Bosley scored under the post without a Cowbridge hand being laid on him. Pencoed converted the try for the halftime score to read Pencoed 12, Cowbridge 5.

This try seemed to take some confidence out of the Cowbridge team, and Pencoed took full advantage, straight from the kick off of the second half. Pencoed were awarded a penalty just inside the Cowbridge half, and they opted kick for touch. With a great deal of fortune the kick to touch was sliced but with the bounce of the ball going for Pencoed the resulting line out ended up five metres from the Cowbridge line.

A simple front ball line out peel ended up with the powerful six foot Pencoed number 8 scoring Pencoed's third try of the game which Pencoed converted.

With the game entering its final stages, it was obvious the next score would be vital. Pencoed continued to use their two incredibly strong runners down the middle into the heart of the Cowbridge defence, with great effect. The Pencoed number 8 burst through the Cowbridge back line first up defence and would have scored if it was not for a last ditch try saving tackle by Ioan Williams, who was literally holding onto the coattails of the number 8, dragging him down just short of the line.

With the Pencoed pack in support it was only incredible defence by Jack Little and Barty Norton that resulted in Pencoed being held up over the line. From the resulting five metres scrum, the number 8 picked up again, R.Williams managed to tackle him short of the line, but the Pencoed scrum half picked up the ball to dive over and score the game's decisive try, which again was converted.

To be fair to Cowbridge even though the game was now out of reach they did not give up. R.Williams came very close to getting Cowbridge's second try of the game but a great cover tackle forced Williams to knock the ball on, just inches from the line.

With minutes left, Cowbridge finally put together a few phases of play and found themselves deep inside the Pencoed 22. Following some frantic defence Pencoed turned the ball over and kicked clear, Pryce-Thomas gathered the bouncing ball, made a clean side step and produced a brilliant pass off his right to put Rowan Allin the Cowbridge right winger clear to score in the corner. Final score Pencoed 26, Cowbridge 10.

This was a disappointing result for the boys, they played some good rugby at times but against good teams they need to ensure they concentrate for the full 60 minutes.

GJ

Bowls club on tour!

COWBRIDGE Bowls Club have just returned from our autumn tour to the Isle of Wight, where we played in lovely sunshine against three very friendly island teams, and on our way home we stopped off to play our final match at Box in Wiltshire.

We stayed in Shanklin during the tour and played at Ventnor, Shanklin and Sanddown, sadly with no success, but everyone enjoyed their matches and the great hospitality they received from the home teams.

In our first match at Ventnor we lost 80-158, with the closest score being the rink with Mary Thomas, Tony Lewis, Elaine Dobie and skip Norman Wilkinson, who lost on the last end with the score 17-18.

Our second match was a local game against Shanklin, which we lost 96-125, with two 'nearly' wins and two drawn rinks. The rink of Gerwyn Watkins, Sian Lewis, Joy Woolford and skip Alan Wallace drew 17-17, and on the rink with Lin Wallace, Bryan Hole, Lynda Wilson and skip Norman Wilkinson, they drew 20-20.

Our third match was at Sanddown where we again lost, this time 73-146, and the only close rink was that of Sylvia Hole, Ron Woolford, Elaine Dobie and skip Dennis Snelling, who only lost 15-18.

On Saturday morning we left the island on an early ferry and travelled to play our last match against a very friendly club in Box, Wiltshire.

Before the match, they kindly provided us with very welcome rolls and cups of tea, but sadly we still lost 76-113, but we did have one win and one very close game.

The winning rink was Margaret Sewell, Rob Lewis, Pat Davey and skip Norman Wilkinson who won 19-10, and the rink with Mansel Davey, Len Taylor, Colin Wilson and skip Elaine Dobie only just lost 14-16.

After the match we sat down to a two-course meal which the ladies had prepared for us, which everyone enjoyed. After such a long day of travelling and playing bowls, we arrived back in Cowbridge very tired but happy!

Our thanks go to Mansel Davey for arranging another happy and successful tour, and team selector Norman Wilkinson.

NJW

Cowbridge Comprehensive sports

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School staged their annual sports presentation on September 10.

Headteacher Debra Thomas welcomed the guests, teachers, parents and pupils to the sports presentation to honour the school's international sportspersons and winners of international, national, county and district competitions. Certificates were also given to members of winning teams and county representatives.

Debra Thomas introduced the sports guests, Nicole Cooke and ex-Cowbridge Comprehensive School pupil Bethan Sloan.

As well as a comprehensive list of outstanding sporting achievements, Nicole has also been a great ambassador for women's sport and has campaigned tirelessly to raise awareness and equality in sport. We were honoured and privileged to have such a highly acclaimed and well respected sportswomen with us.

Bethan Sloan is a former pupil and an international swimmer. She has just had a truly memorable summer, experiencing and achieving what many of our pupils dream of.

Bethan represented Wales in the recent Commonwealth Games in Glasgow after gaining selection in the 50m, 100m and 200m breast stroke. She had an impressive games finishing sixth in both the 100m and 200m heats and fifth in the 50m heat, which led to semi-final qualification, in which she finished eight.

She also managed to secure a personal best in the 50m event, which is a fantastic demonstration of how to perform under pressure!

Not only did Bethan train tirelessly, she also remained fiercely focused on her school studies. Her hard work and determination was rewarded on results day a few weeks ago when Bethan achieved an amazing two A*'s and two A's at A Level. An outstanding achievement!

Bethan has shown to be a fantastic sportswoman, student and role model to our younger pupils and is a credit to not only her parents but also the staff and pupils at Cowbridge Comprehensive School. She is a great example of how to balance school studies alongside sporting commitments and we were honoured to have her on stage with us.

The evening was compered by the PE department's head of department, Neil Thomas, who conducted the evening smoothly and quickly.

See next week for a full list of honours and pictures from the event on page 29.

HOCKEY

This was Year 10's first hockey game this year and they played Plasmawr. The girls played well in the first half but unfortunately conceded a goal in the last minutes of the half due to a short corner.

Plasmawr were 1-0 but a brilliant goal from captain Sophie Oddy put Cowbridge back in the game. The second half was close with both teams attacking and defending strongly.

However, another goal from a short corner by Plasmawr ended the game with a score of 2-1. Player of the match went to Emma Macey (goalkeeper for the first time in two years).

NETBALL

The Year 8 and Year 11 netball team had their first netball match of the season against Bro Morgannwg.

There were mixed fortunes for Cowbridge. The Year 8 team triumphed with a 16-3 victory. Beth Edwards was awarded as player of the match for her excellent defensive and attacking play.

The Year 11 team unfortunately lost their first match after the first third. Cowbridge were leading 2-1, after the second third it was 5-4 to Cowbridge but Bro Morgannwg pulled away to a 12-9 victory in the second half. Annie Lloyd was awarded player of the match for her accurate passing and her contribution in attack.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Cowbridge school cross country girls team competed in the first Cardiff and the Vale Cross country league fixture at Bryn Hafren School.

The Year 7 girls were competing for the school for the first time over a course of 2050 metres. With 168 girls competing the Cowbridge girls did really well. Saffron Maurice came home first for Cowbridge coming eighth, followed by Hannah Dixon 16th, Amelie Clode 19th, Isobel Annetts 20th, Jessica Burt 21st, Cyan Mchardy 40th and Katy Wright 56th.

These girls made up the A team and came second out of 17 teams. Lauren Verrecchia came 72nd, Annabel Stacey 81st and Imogen Thomas 93rd also ran for Cowbridge.

In the Year 8 and 9 race they ran 2450 metres and birthday girl Jessica Wadey of year 9 celebrated with a win. Next in was Year 8 Charlotte Tudor coming 10th followed by Sophie Hawkins 11th, Year 9 Meriel Clode 12th, Georgia Armitage 13th and Year 8 Alice Coe 25th, who made up the A team who came first team out of 17.

Year 9 Emily Jenkins was next home for Cowbridge in 26th, Mali Howell 27th, Year 8 Beth Edwards 37th, Year 9 Aimee Jones 41st, Imogen Marlor who was competing for the school for the first time in cross country came 47th, Year 8 Eve Bird 60th, Eve Mordecai 67th, Maya Williams 70th (who again was competing in her first cross country race for school) and Rebecca Murray 78th.

In the senior race, Year 10-13 girls ran together over a distance of 3130 metres. Year 11 Cerys Bradshaw came fifth, Year 10 Selina Radcliffe came 9th then Year 11 Jemma Viney 23rd Ffion Vickers 26th, Libby Jervis 27th and Year 10 Molly Ann Rees came 40th to make up the A team, who finished the second team overall. Year 10s Sophie Oddy came 43rd, Lowri Morgan 49th, Jasmine Emery 50th, Megan Roberts 53rd, Charlotte Bonney 54th and Alys Pritchard 55th.